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Zionists attempt to muzzle U.S. daily

By Bob Lebling
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 — A Zionist group here has accused *The Washington Post* of anti-Israel bias in its coverage of Middle East news, and has organized a coordinated campaign to force a change in the newspaper's editorial policy.

The Washington chapter of the American Jewish Congress has recruited volunteers to monitor and assess the *Post's* daily coverage of Middle East developments, *Arab News* has learned.

The group plans to besiege post staff members and executives with letters and telephone calls whenever the newspaper carries articles or columns unfavorable to Israel.

The American Jewish Congress chapter will also set up a speaker's bureau to brief other Jewish and Zionist groups on "problems in *The Post's* coverage of the Middle East."

The group will also monitor other news media for alleged anti-Israel bias, and will initiate campaign against perceived offenders. The strategy was developed last Sunday at a meeting here organized by the chapter's media committee. More than 150 people took part in the session, sources said.

Speakers at the meeting accused *The Post* of giving its readers a "distorted view" of the Palestine Liberation Organization. They also blasted the paper for its sympathetic coverage of Saudi Arabia. The meeting discussed the results of a survey of *The Post's* Middle East coverage in 1980 by the conference of presidents of major American Jewish organizations, a Zionist umbrella group.

According to this survey, *The Post* was found to be too sympathetic toward the Palestinians. The newspaper also "consistently denigrated the nation of Israel and its citizens," the report concluded.

Zionist attacks on *The Post*, one of America's most prestigious newspapers, have been gaining in frequency over the past year, observers noted. The newspaper has rejected charges that its coverage is deliberately anti-Israeli. *The Post* insists that its news reporting on Middle East developments is balanced and impartial.

But the paper has shown signs recently that Zionist pressure tactics are having their effect.

A recent *Post* editorial, for example, charged that the PLO was largely responsible for the seizure of the American hostages in Iran. And earlier this month, a *Post* columnist wrote an economic analysis which included an uncharacteristically harsh attack on Saudi Arabia and its role in the OPEC.

There are indications that Zionist groups are mobilizing nationwide to "police" the U.S. media.

On 3-day visit King, queen arrive

By Nigel Harvey

JEDDAH, Feb. 20 — King Carl XVI Gustav and Queen Silvia of Sweden arrived here Friday night on a commercial flight from Stockholm to begin a three-day state visit Saturday.

The royal couple was received by Deputy Governor of Mecca senior officials and staff members of the Royal Swedish Embassy.

The couple, on their first visit to the Arab world, will leave Jeddah Saturday morning by a Saudi Arabian royal aircraft to Riyadh for a private lunch. In the afternoon, the royal couple will receive members of the 3,000 Swedish community in the Kingdom. A press conference will be held before a visit to the Riyadh compound of the Swedish telephone contractors, LM Ericsson.

On Tuesday morning King Khaled will accompany the royal couple from the guest palace to Riyadh airport for a ceremonial farewell to Jeddah to pick up a regular commercial flight, back to Stockholm.

(See royal interview page 7)

Tax reliefs in U.S. Reagan unfolds plan

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (R) — President Reagan proposed a sweeping plan of multi-billion dollar tax and spending cuts designed to pull the U.S. economy out of what he has called the worst mess since the depression of the 1930's.

Reagan described his program, submitted to a joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives, as painful but fair and essential to curb inflation and spur recovery.

The conservative Republican president asked Congress to cut former President Jimmy Carter's budget requests by eight billion dollars in the current fiscal year and 43.8 billion in the 1982 financial year which starts Oct. 1.

But Reagan administration officials said the cuts would actually amount to only \$4.4 billion this year and 2.415 billion next year because they expect inflation to be less severe than the Carter administration predicted.

This would mean lower costs for government programs that automatically increase with the rate of inflation.

Reagan linked his budget cuts with proposals to reduce personal income taxes by 10 percent a year for three years from July 1 and business taxes from Jan. 1. He estimated personal taxes would be reduced by \$44.2 billion and business taxes by \$9.7 billion in 1982.

A total of 83 government programs, ranging from health and education services to job training and urban development, would be cut if Congress approved.

In the package he submitted Thursday, Reagan said his goal was to reduce the government's role in the free market economy and make wealthy and middle-class Americans less dependent on government services.

But he pledged that there would be a safety net for poor families who could not survive without government help. The full extent of the cuts will be revealed when the president submits a detailed budget to Congress on March 10.

Reagan said he would ask Congress to raise the defense budget from \$158 billion in the current financial year to \$250 billion by the 1984 financial year.

Among programs listed for cuts in 1982 were foreign economic aid, from \$3.1 billion to \$4.7 billion, and space programs, from \$6.2 billion to \$6 billion.

Other cuts included child nutrition from \$3.9 billion to \$2.3 billion; subsidies to dairy farmers, from \$1.7 billion to \$622 million; unemployment compensation after 26 weeks' basic benefits, from \$2.5 billion to \$1.2 billion; Medicaid program of health payments to poor families, from \$18.2 billion to \$17.2 billion.

In addition to his proposed budget cuts, the president asked Congress to increase revenue to the government by some two billion dollars by raising fees for using airports, inland waterways, coast guard and other government services.

The economic package, released by the White House before the president appeared before the joint session of Congress, said congressional approval of the plan would



toward increased productivity."

Robert Michel, Republican leader in the House of Representatives, said: "President Reagan has taken the first giant step toward fulfilling his mandate from the American people." But he forecast a tough congressional battle because the Democrats, as Senator Robert Kennedy said, were not prepared "to see the social progress of a generation swept aside in a few short weeks."

On the trade union side, steelworkers' leader Lloyd McBride said the program would "soak the poor and give to the rich," but Robert Cross of the Oil Industry Workers' said: "I think our country's got to do something different."

In Japan, government and monetary officials thought Reagan may succumb to congressional pressure and have to cut federal spending by less than \$41.40 billion dollars in fiscal 1982.

If that happened, the program could fail to curb inflationary pressure, the Reagan recovery bid could suffer and the dollar decline.

Japanese officials said the U.S. may increase its calls for Japan to assume more responsibility in defense spending and foreign aid. They also feared increased protectionism on the part of the United States.

Plans to shelve the U.S. synthetic fuels project looked bad for the joint coal liquefaction project launched by Japan, West Germany and the U.S., they also said.

In West Germany, government and business officials saw the Reagan plan as "a coherent whole". Success relied on Congress not dismantling it, and also on private demand and industrial investment reacting immediately to the easier taxes.

Government officials said that if social and other cuts were rejected in Congress, the federal budget may not be re-balanced by 1984 and indeed the deficit may increase. At the same time monetary restrictions would be accentuated which would hamper West German attempts to defend the mark and fight recession.

Business circles noted that the program was founded on the bold wager that production, stimulated by tax cuts, would rise faster than prices. The figures for household consumption, motors and building would give an early indication of whether the program would work.

The official Soviet news agency Tass, meanwhile, accused Reagan of trying "to justify the unbridled increase in American military expenditure by referring to invented reports on Soviet defense spending."

In a report from Washington on Reagan's economic speech to a joint session of Congress, Tass said Reagan declared his willingness to open negotiations with Moscow on disarmament, "not hiding Washington's intentions of conducting such negotiations from a position of strength."

Police accuse Basques of kidnapping 3 consuls

BILBAO, Spain, Feb. 20 (Agencies) — Hooded gunmen described by police as Basque separatists kidnapped three honorary consuls in night-time raids on their homes in northern Spain. The abductions followed the public outcry over allegations that a suspected Basque separatist who died in police custody had been tortured. The consuls of Austria and El Salvador in the Basque country of Bilbao and the consul for Uruguay at Pamplona in neighboring Navarre province, were kidnapped Thursday night and their relatives were held for some hours to prevent them from calling authorities, the police said.

They said a fourth kidnapping attempt at the Portuguese consulate in San Sebastian Friday morning failed because the consul was not there. Police said the abductors belonged to the political-military wing of the separatist organization.

Sources in the family of Uruguayan Consul Gabriel Biriun, 40, said the kidnappers told him to pack his suitcase for a long time but that nothing would happen to him. The kidnappers were quoted as saying they wanted to publicize the demands about Basque detainees.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the kidnappings. Diplomatic sources named the abducted consul for Austria as Hermann Diez De La Sel Korsatko, 45, an Austrian national. The consul for El Salvador was named as Antonio Amparo Fernandez,

Police stood guard outside consulates and diplomatic residences in the Basque country Friday. The abductions were carried out a week after a Basque suspect Jose Arregui Izaguirre died in a Madrid jail following nine days of police custody. An autopsy report said he died of bronchial pneumonia but it noted signs of physical violence including burns on both feet.

The death of Arregui triggered big protest demonstrations in the Basque country and a furor in the Spanish press. Five police inspectors who conducted his interrogation were detained and seven senior policemen resigned in anger at the public protests.

In Madrid Friday, the caretaker ministers of foreign and interior affairs discussed the kidnappings as a vote-of-confidence debate was going on in the Spanish parliament. Prime Minister-designate Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo was seeking parliamentary approval as successor to Adolfo Suarez who resigned last month. Sources in the family quoted the kidnappers as saying nothing would be heard of the consul for at least 15 days.

West's departure postponed

By Elias Haddad

JEDDAH, Feb. 20 — U.S. Ambassador John West, who was due to leave for home Monday after a three and half years in Jeddah, has been asked to remain at post a few more weeks.

The request was made to the ambassador by Secretary Alexander Haig Thursday "because of the importance we attach to the U.S.-Saudi Arabian relationship and our desire not to leave too long vacant this important post", an embassy spokesman told *Arab News*.

The spokesman quoted Haig as telling the ambassador: "In this light I feel I must ask you to remain in Saudi Arabia for a few more weeks until mid-March."

"I recognize that your doing so will involve considerable personal inconvenience", the secretary of state added.

Haig, who expressed gratitude to the Ambassador, "for your consideration in the matter", also asked West to explain the postponement of his departure to the Saudi Arabian government.

"You may wish to stress our awareness of the great importance of the range of issues in which both governments have a common

Atomic blast by Israelis said likely

By Bob Lebling
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 — Israel is believed to have conducted its second atmospheric test of a low-yield nuclear device last December in the waters off the South African coast, according to defense analysts. The atomic test, carried out with the help of the South African government, was similar to an earlier nuclear blast in the same area of the South Atlantic which was detected by a U.S. reconnaissance satellite in February 1979.

Officially, the Carter administration refused to acknowledge that the flash detected by the "Vela" satellite in 1979 was a nuclear explosion.

But defense sources told *Arab News* at that time the Pentagon thought otherwise, based on its own analysis of the monitoring data.

Other sources said the 1979 blast was a test of a low-yield tactical (or battlefield) nuclear weapon by Israel, conducted with the help of the South Africans. Last Dec. 15, a second flash was detected by U.S. monitoring sensors in approximately the same location as the 1979 explosion.

Urgent efforts are now underway within the U.S. intelligence community to confirm the identity of the country or countries that carried out this latest test. But defense analysts say Israel is the most likely candidate since the location of the explosion and its yield are similar to the earlier confirmed blast.

Court indicts ripper for 13 murders

DEWSBURY, Feb. 20 (AP) — Truck driver Peter Sutcliffe was indicted Friday for the murder of 13 women and the attempted slaying of seven more, all crimes blamed by police on the "Yorkshire ripper." The 35-year-old Sutcliffe was committed for trial at Leeds Crown Court by a panel of three Dewsbury magistrates. No date was set, but the next court session begins next month.

Sutcliffe was brought to court under heavy police escort from Arley prison in Leeds, 16 kilometers away. It was only the second time since his arrest Jan. 2 that Sutcliffe had appeared in the oak-paneled courtroom.

State prosecutor David Kyle told the three magistrates that police would produce a pile of exhibits at Sutcliffe's trial, including "drawings, maps and photographs made by the defendant... and eight physical exhibits." Police sources said that the exhibits would include a screwdriver, a round-headed hammer and several knives.

Helsinki office for PLO

AMMAN, Feb. 20 (AP) — The Finnish government has given the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) permission to open an office in Helsinki, a Palestinian source said here Thursday. Talks are currently being held to decide on the office's status before it is formally opened.

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FOUR STOREY BUILDING, North Palestine Street, opposite Ibn Kuthir Intermediate School and near Chinese Embassy in Jeddah, is now FOR SALE OR RENT.

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Islamic states launch chamber of commerce

From our Gulf Bureau

KUWAIT, Feb. 20 — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates have contributed \$20,000 each to the newly established Islamic Chamber of Commerce. Morocco has offered \$10,000 and Iran 25,000 Swiss Francs, according to Sheikh Ismail Abu Dawood, chairman of the Saudi Arabian chamber of commerce.

Abu Dawood said other Islamic countries were also expected to seed in their shares shortly. The contributions will keep the Islamic chamber going until next year, he added.

Abu Dawood said that he expected Islamic countries would pay generously for the construction of a permanent premises of the Islamic Chamber in Karachi. Pakistan has already donated a site of 5,000 square feet, he said.

Although the Islamic Chamber is still in its infancy, he said, "it has already embarked on important studies to establish an Islamic shipping company and another for re-insurance in which all Islamic countries as well as businessmen will have shares."

He said cooperation between the Kuwait and Saudi Chambers was excellent. "Our cooperation covers many fields, including the exchange of information related to the commercial developments," he added.

The conference noted with satisfaction the third Islamic summit a resolution extending the Arab boycott of Israel to all member states of the OIC. The conference urged the member states of the chamber to implement the resolution at an early date. The general assembly requested them to give special facilities to the PLO in the sphere of economic cooperation.

The general assembly has elected Abdulaziz Hamad al Sagar (President of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry) as the chairman of the Islamic Economic Chamber. The conference also elected Momar Sourang of Senegal and Djanamar Adjan of Indonesia as vice-chairmen.

The general assembly of the chamber welcomed in principle the establishment of an Islamic re-insurance corporation. The proposal was made by a study group specially formed to explore the possibilities of independent reinsurance facility for the member countries, secretary-general of the chamber Sami Onaran (Turkey) said. The first expert group meeting on re-insurance will be held in Dacca, capital of Bangladesh in the second half of this year. The three-day general assembly meeting was presided over by the President of the Chamber, Sheikh Ismail Abu Dawood of Saudi Arabia. Representatives of the chambers from 24 countries and four Islamic organizations attended the conference which was inaugurated by Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait, Sheikh Saad al Abdulla al Sabah at the Kuwait Sheraton.

Bangladesh delegate Shamsul Alam, highlighting the salient features of the study on re-insurance problems and possibilities, said the ultimate aim of the proposed Islamic Re-Insurance Corporation would be a system through which the Islamic countries could liberate their trade from the clutches of the Western re-insurance monopolies.

The chairman of the expert group on shipping, Mustapha Gokal, analysed the negligible role being played at present by the Islamic countries in world shipping despite the available opportunities in the field. He appreciated the creation of the Islamic Shipowners Association and emphasized the urgent need for the establishment of an Islamic shipping company in the field of bulk cargoes.

Another major issue, discussed during the general assembly meeting was the formation of an Islamic common market. After hearing the explanation of Bangladesh delegation and noting the statement of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) the representatives said this subject would be discussed during the seventh Islamic commission on economic, cultural and social affairs of the OIC to be held in Jakarta on March 30. The chamber general body decided to follow up the matter jointly with OIC.



(RFA photo) FINANCE: Sheikh Muhammad Abu Al-Khasi, finance and national economy minister, chaired the Gulf International Bank's meeting in Riyadh Thursday morning. The bank's General Assembly had met Wednesday night under its chairman, Sheikh Abdullah Saif. The meeting discussed, among other things, the closing accounts for 1980. The bank is a joint venture of all Gulf states.

Industries expo opens today

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, Feb. 20 — A series of exhibitions, seminars and guided tours of factories in the industrial cities of the Kingdom will highlight the National Industrial Week beginning Saturday.

The occasion is meant to acquaint citizens with the variety of locally manufactured products. As part of the program, factories will "present a special display of their products for sale at lower prices."

In Jeddah, about 35 industries will participate in a cavalcade that will wind its way through the city to terminate at the Al Hamra palace.

Apart from serving as an industrial show-

case, the industrial week will also seek to forge closer links between business and the government, besides highlighting the problems of industrialists.

The Jeddah Chamber of Commerce will organize an exhibition featuring the products manufactured by various companies in the Kingdom. Factories will give special prizes to their most efficient employees. In Riyadh, the King Khaled prize will be awarded to the best industry, while in Jeddah, the municipality will award prizes to factories for the highest standards of safety, quality and cleanliness.

A special film on the growth of national industries has also been filmed for release in the Kingdom.

COMMENT

By Saleh Al-Marzouk

Al Riyadh

You find all kinds of things being sold on the pavement, ranging from books, garments to luxury items. In fact, the pavement has been transformed into a market place and, even more, a parking area!

There used to be fatal accidents in the past owing to the absence of pavement. But even today the situation does not seem to be very much different from the past, although we now have well-planned roads with pavements.

The pavements have been constructed to protect the pedestrians and not to provide scope for vendors, who cluster everywhere with their merchandise and even sometimes close the road. Although

municipal officials have launched several campaigns to put an end to this phenomenon, these have not been sufficient so far. We would need permanent campaign to root out this unpleasant phenomenon, so that the pavements are not misused by vendors. They ignore all civic rules and municipal campaigns launched from time to time.

If we probe the reasons for the recurrence of such a phenomenon, we would find that vendors do not have to pay any rent for their temporary "shops", and so they keep on moving from one place to another in the hope of a good sale. With a little organization, we can easily get rid of pavement-vendors by creating special places for their trade. In this way, the phenomenon can be checked from spreading to other areas, and we can have safe pavements free from unpleasant situation.

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Islamic body allocates more funds for learning

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, Feb. 20 — Representatives of 15 Islamic states resumed meetings at the Secretariat General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference here Saturday to apportion \$15 million from the financially-autonomous Islamic Solidarity Fund to Islamic associations and universities throughout the world.

The representatives who opened their meetings on Feb. 15 and will continue till March 3 are subdivided into five three-member committees for Asia; Africa; the Middle East; Europe and America; and the universities and scientific research. They will submit their report and recommendations to the 18th session of the ISF's permanent council which will meet here, April 6-9, under its President Dr. Ezzeddin Ibrahim, cultural adviser to Sheikh Zayed ibn Sultan Al-Nahayan, president of the United Arab Emirates.

Members of the ISF's permanent council are Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Iraq, Libya, Sudan, Pakistan, Tur-

key, Mauritania, Malaysia, Djibouti, Tunisia and the Comoros, apart from the OIC secretary general and the fund's president.

The fund's budget was around \$15 million last year and this year, but the third Islamic summit recently held in the Kingdom took a decision that as of next year the ISF's budget will be raised to \$50 million, Islamic officials told Arab News Thursday. Unlike the OIC general secretary's budget which is mainly financed by member states according fixed annual subscriptions, the ISF depends solely on voluntary donations by member states and eventually private sources and Saudi Arabia usually contributes the largest part.

The ISF also intends to embark on a large scale fund raising campaign during the coming month of Ramadan during which Muslims fast and give alms to the poor or subsidize philanthropic activities of various kinds (July 1981). The fund will seek the help of the member states information media for the purpose and already requested that a prominent personality be designated in each member state to collect donations on behalf of the fund.

East gets more phone lines

DAMMAM, Feb. 20 — The share of Eastern Province cities and villages in the new telephone network totalled 40,221 lines until the end of last January. When the network is completed in 1982 it will total 155,000 lines, Abdullah Al-Abbad, the region's telephone director has said. The province also received 1,778 telex lines and 244 public phone booths during the same period.

More than 2,000 lines are installed every month in various cities and towns of the Eastern Province, the official said. And more than 20,000 new lines will be given this year in Al-Khobar, Dammam, Dhahran, Abqiq, Rahima, Al-Khafji,

Qatif, Sayhat, Hafir-al-Baten, Safwi, Turut, and Al-Nuayreyyah. Work is already underway and will be completed within the coming few weeks in installing 4,000 new lines in Qatif, Sayhat, and Anq. A time-table has already been worked out for subscribers here to receive their telephones. All telephones in the Eastern Province are at present being hooked to a computer which will go into operation by the second half of 1981. Within a month all subscribers in the area will have the facility to dial double zero to make their long distance phone calls without seeking the help of the operator. They will be able to contact 84 states directly.

Prince Fahd flyover opens to traffic

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, Feb. 20 — The first section of the Prince Fahd bridge from the present airport to the traffic lights of Atlas hotel was

opened for traffic here recently.

The nearly five-kilometer bridge, estimated to cost SR 558 million, is scheduled for completion in August, 1983. The link-up with Mecca Road is expected to be earlier.

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Ishraq	6:48	6:51	6:23	6:11	6:35	7:07
Dhuhr	12:34	12:35	12:07	11:53	12:18	12:47
Asr	3:54	3:53	3:24	3:10	3:34	4:02
Maghreb	6:22	6:21	5:52	5:37	6:02	6:29
Isha	7:52	7:51	7:22	7:07	7:32	7:59

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VESSELS	E.T.A.
LAMA ISLAND V-21/81	25-1-81
ANTONETTE	27-1-81
MING AUTUMN	27-1-81
OKPO PEARL	28-1-81
ROBBIN HOOD V-5	5-2-81
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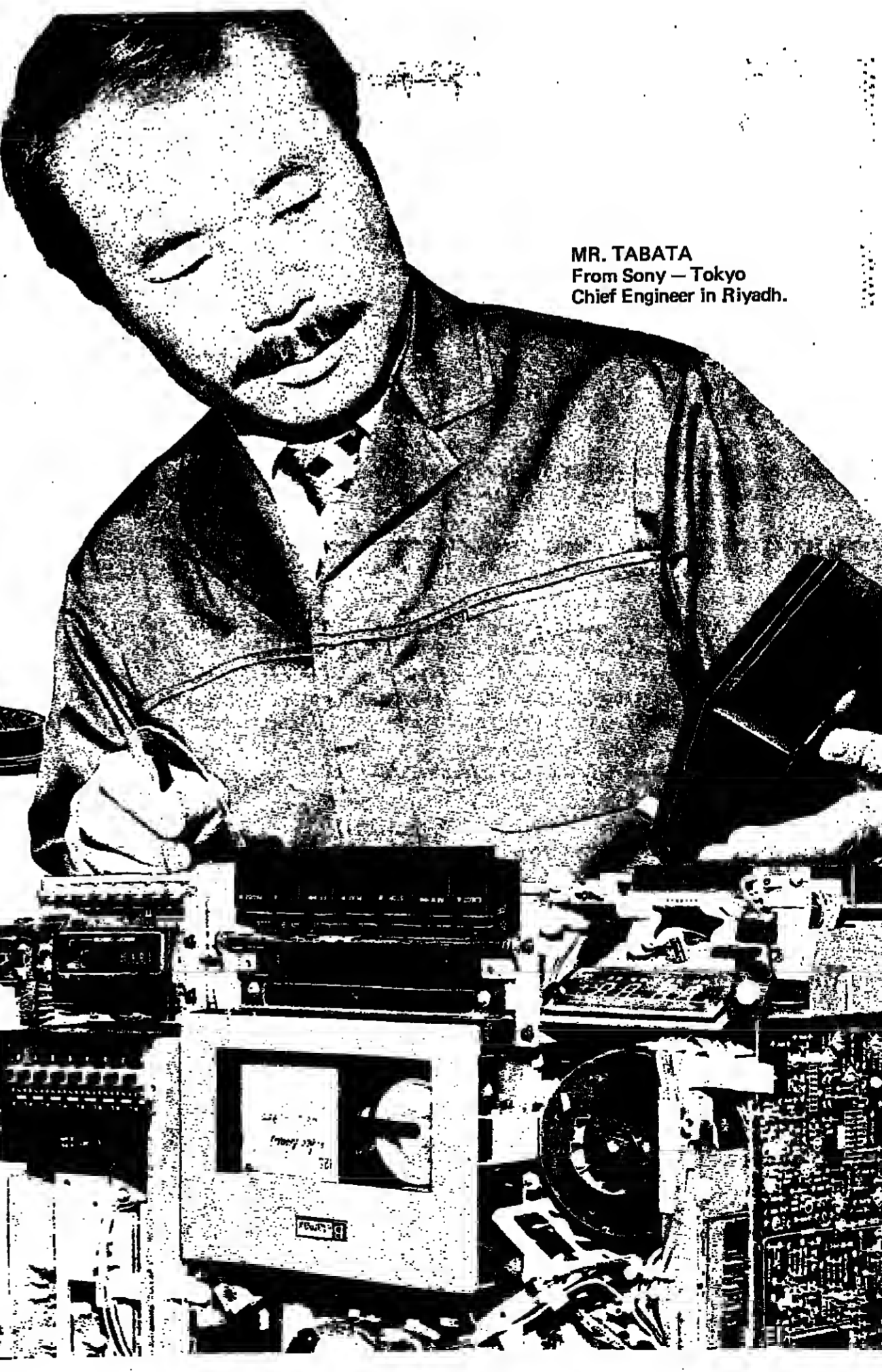
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Israeli official resigns over emigration policy

TEL AVIV, Feb. 20 (AP) — A top immigration official has resigned, saying the government was not acting effectively on a report he wrote on emigration from the Jewish state. Shmuel Lahis, director-general of the Jewish Agency told AP that the problem of emigration was so serious "it could threaten the existence of the state."

He said the Jewish agency which oversees the movement of Jews to Israel was tying his hands over emigration, and he added "they won't let me criticize the government's handling of the issue."

Shamir confers with U.S. MPs

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (Agencies) — Visiting Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir discussed current issues in U.S.-Israeli relations at a closed-door reception Thursday with members of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee. Committee Chairman Clement Zablocki, a Wisconsin Democrat, said the session with Shamir "went very well."

Zablocki said Shamir indicated "he is confident that the Camp David process will resume". The talks between Israel and Egypt over Palestinian autonomy and other issues have been suspended since last year.

Yadin retires from politics

TEL AVIV, Feb. 20 (R) — Israel's Deputy Prime Minister Yigael Yadin has announced that he was retiring from political life and would not run in the general election on June 30. Yadin told a television interviewer Wednesday night that his Democratic Party had begun winding up its affairs and all its members were free to pursue their own political

paths. The announcement ended four years in active politics for Yadin which have been described by Israeli political commentators as a total failure. Yadin, 63, entered politics before the May 1977 election at the head of the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC), a new reformist party.

Jerusalem mayor warns Israel against company control

TEL AVIV, Feb. 20 (AP) — Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek warned in an interview published Friday that government moves to deepen Israeli control of the Arab sector of the city were playing into the hands of the Palestine Liberation Organization.



Teddy Kollek

Kollek bitterly attacked the government's efforts to take over the Arab Electricity Company that supplies power to Jerusalem's Arab sector and surrounding West Bank settlements.

He told the daily *Maariv* that the company was "a symbol of the Arabs' nationalist and economic pride." To take it over would cause "unrest and harm coexistence and damage Israel politically and revive all the opposition to our rule of Jerusalem and give the Arabs an excellent weapon for presenting us to the world as usurpers and pirates."

He said if the company was seized, its workers would strike "and strikes mean tension and tension serves the PLO."

Kollek said Israel's diplomatic standing already had been damaged by the passage of a bill last July which wrote into Israeli law the

annexation of Arab Jerusalem. Anyone who went abroad following the controversial "Jerusalem law" affair could feel "opposition, hate and oaths to never let us rule Jerusalem," he said.

The Israeli supreme court ruled Monday that the government was entitled to take over the company's facilities in Arab Jerusalem since that sector is annexed to Israel, but could not touch installations in the West Bank since it is under military occupation.

Israel detains six Arab students

TEL AVIV, Feb. 20 (AP) — Authorities arrested six Palestinian students Thursday in a crackdown on political activities in West Bank universities, Israel radio reported. The six students were charged with inciting other students to form a political framework hostile to the state at the universities of Bethlehem and Bir Zeit, the radio added.

Authorities also arrested four youths sus-

Arab students

pected of forming a commando cell in the town of Hebron and of planting explosives at a soldiers' hitching post in Israel.

In separate incidents, two minors were charged Thursday with throwing a Molotov cocktail at an Israeli military vehicle in Bethlehem some months ago, the radio reported.

Sadat urges formation of Arab parliament

CAIRO, Feb. 20 (AP) — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat has called for the formation of an Arab parliament along the lines of the European parliament, as a first step to form an Arab common market, the official Middle East News Agency reported.

He said Thursday he thought of this idea while visiting the European parliament last

of Arab parliament

week, when he saw the building where the documents of the European parliament are translated into ten languages of its members. Sadat also expressed his hopes, in his address to the weekly meeting of the ruling National Democratic Party, that the agreements for full autonomy for the Palestinians would be reached before the end of the year.

BRIEFS

KHARTOUM, (AFP) — The Sudanese government has accepted the resignations of more than 100 of a total of 250 magistrates who had gone on strike Tuesday to protest their "unsatisfactory service conditions."

WASHINGTON, (R) — Turkey is freeing four jailed Americans, three of whom were originally sentenced to death for drug smuggling, the State Department has said.

BEIRUT, (AP) — The predominantly Greek Catholic town of Zahlé staged a one-hour general strike in eastern Lebanon Friday to protest an attempt to assassinate

Patriarch Maximos V Hakim, the head of the Greek Catholic Church in the Middle East and the Western hemisphere.

ANKARA, (AFP) — Twenty policemen and 17 extremists were killed and 48 persons were wounded in terrorist actions between Jan. 12 and Feb. 12, Turkey's military command announced here Thursday.

BONN, (AP) — The foreign affairs committee of the West German parliament will send a fact-finding team to Turkey next month to report on the situation in that country, it was announced Friday.

Genscher says 'M.E. peace vital for Europe'

CAIRO, Feb. 20 (AP) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has stressed Europe's increasing involvement in Mideast peace moves, and said it was essential that the West and the Middle East cooperate toward safeguarding their mutual interests "in the face of any threat, also in the face of the Soviet threat."

Genscher told reporters after a 75-minute meeting with President Anwar Sadat that "the states of the Middle East depend on a free Europe, in close cooperation with the United States," and that peace in the Middle East was vital for Western Europe.

Genscher is the fourth European foreign minister to come to Egypt in the last two months. His Italian, British and Dutch counterparts visited Cairo separately in January for talks with Egyptian officials on Europe's potential role in achieving a comprehensive Mideast peace.

Genscher was reiterating statements he made on his last visit to Egypt one year ago when he said the West and the Middle East were "both in the same boat" because of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Earlier this week, Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky also met officials here to discuss the options for a comprehensive peace.

Sadat told reporters in the garden of his house in Giza, a suburb of Cairo, that Genscher had conveyed to him West Germany's acceptance of the "idea of mutual recognition between all parties" involved in the Middle East conflict.

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East Africa to set up new sanctuary

By Thomas Lead

GENEVA, (ONS) — East Africa will establish a vast new nature reserve and reorganize the national wildlife protection services in a combined effort to strengthen the first line of defense against poachers threatening the dwindling elephant and rhinoceros populations. The countries involved seek ultimately to control the lucrative world trade in ivory.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has announced plans to make funds and technical assistance available to the governments of Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya and the Sudan where the war against poachers was fought with aircraft and automatic weapons. The new campaign sprang from the experience gained in Zambia, where law enforcement agencies were assisted by local conservation groups and the business community to clear the magnificent Luangwa Valley of 10 highly organized gangs.

The second line of defense is being organized at international level, with backing from specialist United Nations organizations. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, recently joined by the Central African Republic, Communist China and Japan, would meet in New Delhi this month to discuss ways to fight the illegal demand for ivory and rhino horn. The oil-rich Middle East remains a lucrative market where horn-handled daggers are displayed as a symbol of maturity.

Africa's elephant population, estimated at five million five years ago, has been reduced almost entirely by poachers to 1.3 million, says a specialist study published by the *New York Zoological Society*. The world's rhino population — including both the black and the white sub-species was down to about 24,000, most of it in Africa, and facing extinction. Rhino horn and ivory fetch more than their weight in gold. Only a small proportion of the money reaches the poacher, but the easy availability of military weapons and the inability of local police to control the vast areas of wilderness have made poaching until recently a relatively safe and profitable business.

Years of political chaos and violence have left Uganda's once rich nature reserves virtually depopulated of large beasts. Even in countries which have seen little political strife, such as Kenya, poachers sometimes enjoy the sympathy of local populations because wild animals are an economic threat to crops and domestic livestock. Zambia may be the first African country to reverse the trend. Aided by a \$3 million grant from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Zambia has doubled the number of wildlife guards, with mobile police reinforcements as well as aircraft, land vehicles and other support equipment now being deployed.

The campaign followed a report by IUCN/WWF: "At least 10 gangs of poachers, with up to 26 mercenaries per gang, have descended on the Luangwa Valley, armed with AK-27 automatic rifles and other



REDUCED: Africa's elephant population, estimated at five million five years ago, has been reduced almost entirely by poachers to 1.3 million. East Africa decided to wage war against poachers to save wild animals.

sophisticated equipment. "They have the firepower to kill up to 600 elephants and 240 black rhinos every month. This would mean the annihilation of the black rhino if we do not hit back."

IUCN/WWF have now earmarked \$600,000 for a wide-ranging package of conservation measures in East Africa, including the setting up of a new national park in the Sudan, fresh anti-poaching equipment for Tanzania and Kenya, and help with reestablishing Uganda's wildlife services. About half the money would go to the Sudan where the government set up a new 800-square-kilometer protected area for the white rhino.

A top priority has been given to reconstruction work in Uganda where, during the eight-year rule of Idi Amin and the anarchy following the war of liberation the country's wildlife resources were devastated, says a spokesman for IUCN/WWF. A grant of \$30,000 has now been made to support an adviser to the Uganda authorities seeking to rehabilitate the local conservation areas.

The rest of the money would go to Tanzania, Kenya and Madagascar for equipment and training in wildlife conservation. Tanzania is particularly worried about highly-organized poaching operations which have reduced the black rhino populations to about 1,000 in the Ruaha National Park and, even more serious, to less than 100 in the Serengeti. Ivory poachers are also taking a heavy toll in northern Tanzania.

Goodbye to bilingual teaching

By T.R. Reid and Noel Epstein

WASHINGTON, (WP) — The Reagan Administration scrapped a controversial set of regulations that require schools to teach non-English-speaking students in their native languages.

Education Secretary Terrel Bell said he would replace the bilingual requirement with new regulations permitting local schools to decide themselves how best to educate students who cannot speak or read English. He said the government would still insist, though, that any school receiving federal funds — a category covering all public and many private schools — "provide equal educational opportunity for...children who face language barriers."

The regulations, proposed last August by his predecessor Shirley Hufstedler, were in limbo anyway because Congress had blocked their implementation. But Bell's decision will have substantive effect because it will permit some 500 large schools — which have about 90 per cent of the students affected by the rules — to revise commitments they have already made to set up bilingual teaching programs.

The most common alternative to bilingual teaching of basic courses will presumably be special training in English for students who cannot understand English-language teaching and textbooks. Educators who support this method say it is cheaper for schools and better for students in the long run because it forces them to learn the language most Americans use.

Bell's decision seems to reflect the new administration's oft-stated aversion to "prescriptive" regulations, in which the government directs how a particular result is to be achieved. Reagan's economic advisers say they prefer "result-oriented" regulation, in which Washington describes the desired result without prescribing the way to achieve it.

Hispanic leaders, who advocated compulsory bilingual education, responded angrily to Bell's message. "My god" said Rep. Robert Garcia, Democrat, New York, "if this is the first major educational decision of the Reagan administration, then this country is in for absolute disaster." Ruben Bonilla, president of the League of United Latin American Citizens, called the decision "a very steep price to pay for having given the Republicans the strongest Hispanic vote in history." He

was referring to Hispanic support for Reagan in the 1980 election.

The Education Department said late last year that there were about 3.5 million children in U.S. elementary and secondary schools who know too little English — the bureaucratic term is "limited-English-proficient children" — to learn arithmetic, geography and other basics. About 70 per cent of them are Hispanic. The second-largest group of children speaks Asian languages — Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese and Cambodian.

Most of the children in this situation were born in the United States. To date, refugees and immigrants have been significant factors in only a few dozen of the nation's 16,000 public school districts.

The bilingual education controversy, which has generated thousands of pages of legal and regulatory argument over the past 15 years or so, stems from two words in the 1964 civil rights act — a provision banning discrimination on the basis of "national origin."

In a 1974 case brought in the name of Kinney Lau, a Chinese American student in the San Francisco public school, the Supreme Court said the term "national origin" included language, and thus schools were required to provide equal educational opportunity to students who cannot learn in English. The court specifically declined to say which method schools should use to meet that requirement.

A year later, the federal office of education issued an "informal" document which pushed school districts toward the bilingual teaching approach. Hufstedler's proposed regulation last year carried on the thrust of that document.

Bell called the proposed rules "harsh, inflexible, burdensome, unworkable and incredibly costly." He said they would have cost school systems up to \$1 billion over the next five years.

The secretary said he would issue new regulations by June that will make it clear that his department intends to be "pretty loose" about the methods schools use in the future to provide equal opportunity to non-English speakers.

Bell also said he would work to change the Bilingual Education Act, which provides grants to help local schools meet the goal. At present, grants go mainly to schools that institute native-language programs for basic courses.

Diabetes: leading cause of death in U.S.

By Sandy Roverer

WASHINGTON (WP) — Sugar coating — the very words produce an image for most of us, of something yummy. But what if you thought of your blood cells as sugar coated? "Like a glazed donut," says Dr. Robert J. Tanenberg. And not just your blood cells, but your kidneys, liver, eyes, nerve cells... and more.

Dr. Tanenberg, an internist specializing in endocrinology and diabetes control and a clinical assistant professor of medicine at Georgetown Medical Center, sees the ravages of diabetes in just that way. And if its 10 million estimated victims in this country could picture the "glazing" of their internal organs as vividly as does Tanenberg, he feels the often fatal complications of the disorder could be greatly lessened.

Until the 1920s, a diagnosis of diabetes was a death sentence. And a pretty swift one, at that. It is probably one of man's earliest afflictions. Its symptoms were described by Egyptians as early as 1500 B.C. No one knows what causes it, but sure, although some research indicates a viral connection. There is no cure, no way to prevent its onset.

With the discovery of insulin a mere half century ago, a diabetic could expect after long last a prolonged life. But even as life was extended, it became apparent that diabetes was prone at a much greater rate than the public at large to a series of complications, including: the gamut of vascular diseases — strokes, heart attacks and poor circulation to extremities leading eventually to the dread gangrene, amputations, death; blindness from a variety of eye disorders. Diabetes is the leading cause of new blindness in this country; kidney failure; complications in pregnancy threatening both mother and infant.

Diabetes, apart from its complications, is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States. Adding deaths from complications, it

jumps to third. Many specialists in the disease believe it need not be so devastating. It is, they believe — and Tanenberg is of this school — mostly a matter of control.

Of course, research into the cause of diabetes and eventually its permanent control, even prevention, continues at a considerable pace, aided greatly by this decade's explosion of knowledge in cellular biology, biochemistry, endocrinology and all other details of the body's intricate physiological functions. Scientists are only just beginning to fathom.

And it is no real surprise that there has been controversy on treatment, in approaches to control and conflicting opinions as to why a given diabetic will be susceptible to a particular complication. More and more, though, says Tanenberg, evidence supports the thesis that it is the sugar coating itself — the elevated blood sugar, the blood cells and other internal workings glazed with sweetness — that wreaks the principal havoc.

It follows that tight control of the elevated blood sugar should avert the life-threatening complications. The problem for diabetes specialists always has been how to accomplish this control and how to provide a way for the patient to maintain it. Diabetes is chronic and capricious. In juveniles it is mostly a matter of a pancreas disorder in which not enough insulin is manufactured to properly process sugar in the system. Somehow the message to the pancreas, normally triggered by elevated blood sugar levels, is short-circuited.

In the kind of diabetes that occurs in later life, often in the obese, it has been found that the breakdown is in utilizing the insulin. Often weight loss will completely alleviate the problem. Some doctors, in fact, regard this disorder as something other than true diabetes. However, when weight is regained, blood sugar levels rise. Because the resulting damage is the same — no matter why it happens — specialists continue to regard this disorder as adult onset diabetes.

In the early days of insulin injections,

syringes were crude and measurements approximate. The paraphernalia for the diabetic is now sophisticated and greatly simplified. But until recently there has been no accurate way to provide insulin at the moment it is really needed — when the blood sugar is high.

Elaborate equipment exists, says Tanenberg, but it is clumsy and expensive beyond the means of the average patient.

However, now there is a simple home blood test, called chemstrip, which can provide the needed information in minutes. Tanenberg, who used it with his patients on an experimental basis, found it particularly helpful for diabetics on insulin. For about 50 cents a shot, patients and physicians can keep a tight control with less fuss, fewer office visits and more successful results than had been available before.

The kit, developed by Bio-Dynamics Inc., comes complete with a minuscule sterile, sticker, alcohol, gauze and the chemically treated strip. In a virtually painless process one drop of blood is obtained and spread on the strip. After two simple procedures and a total elapsed time of two minutes, the strip can be compared to a color chart and the blood sugar level accurately gauged. Then the precise dose of insulin may be given at the moment it is needed.

Monitoring is the basis of successful control of diabetes which is always a matter of keeping the system in proper balance. Tanenberg, also the physician-vice president of the American Diabetes Association, is engaged in a variety of activities designed to educate — both doctors and patients as well as families of diabetics. His own patients range in age from toddlers to nonagenarians. During summers he is a medical consultant to Camp Glyndon, a camp for diabetic children — and at times their families — in Maryland.

For information and literature write: American Diabetes Association, 2 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016.

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Saudi Arabian Press Review

The weekend newspapers mostly led with Swedish King Karl Gustav's visit to Saudi Arabia beginning Friday. In a lead story, *Al-Bilad* said King Khalid and King Gustav would discuss the means of reinforcing bilateral relations, while *Okaz* led with a report on the Good Office Committee meeting in Saudi Arabia late this month to strive to settle the Iraq-Iran dispute. *Al-Madina* gave lead prominence to a statement by Minister of Industry and Electricity Dr. Ghazi Algasbi, in which he said that the Gulf Cooperation Council would give a new spurt to the economic and industrial cooperation among the states of the Gulf. The Palestinian Central Council's discussion in Damascus on cooperation for oil Palestinians formed the headline story in *Al-Yom* while *Al-Riyadh* reported in its lead that the issue of the Jordanian diplomat's kidnapping in Beirut would be settled within the framework of a tripartite agreement between Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

Okaz gave front-page treatment to a press statement by U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom John West, who said there could be no peace without a solution to the Palestine and Jerusalem issue, and that the Islamic summit conference was a big step toward boosting peace efforts in the region. *Al-Madina* frontpaged a report on the expulsion of 20 East Germans working in the field of education in Somalia. *Al-Yom* highlighted Iraq's reported intention to train all Iraqi nationals on carrying the arms and to create a popular army of 250,000 persons.

Newspaper editorials commented on a variety of subjects of Arab and international concern. They said the central idea behind the Gulf cooperation is to create a unity in the future, as all the components of unity, including geography, heritage, economy, trade and social traditions, are available in the region. Some newspapers dealt with the Middle East situation and the European stance, urging the European states to take a firm initiative to ensure peace on the basis of right and justice to the people of Palestine. They also called upon the Arabs to take an initiative that influences the European policy and warns Europe against the grave risks emanating from their slackness toward the Arab cause.

In an editorial, *Al-Madina* said the creation of the Gulf Cooperation Council would result in a stronger cooperation and coordination among the states of the Gulf in the industrial field. The industrial activity in this region would have to be pushed forward since the region presently depends on imports from other countries. The paper said the Gulf states would have to intensify their activity in the field of construction and petrochemicals for which they possess enough raw materials. It reiterated that the success of this state in the field of coordination would generate a confidence that has been missing in the fields of industrial and commercial cooperation. The paper added that the Arab states of the Gulf would provide a practical example of cooperation for all Arab states.

On the same subject, *Al-Jazirah* noted that the main idea behind the Gulf cooperation is to create a unity in the future stage. It added that a unified Gulf Arab entity would not only respond to the wishes of the Gulf peoples but would also be an answer to the nature of the age in which we find bigger states creating their weight and influence on world events. A practical project, like the Gulf Cooperation Council, transforms the peoples' dreams into a tangible reality, said the paper, adding that it would help in exploiting the great many potentialities for further development and progress of the region. Brushing aside some hostile media claim that the council would create a thaw between its richer and poorer members, the paper noted with a firm conviction that the oil states of the Gulf have played a pioneering role in assisting the poorer states economically as well as financially. It described this assistance as a moral obligation created by a sense of responsibility toward the Arab states which do not have the oil wealth.

On the other hand, *Okaz* dwelled on the Middle East situation and urged the European states to adopt a fast pace so they are able to contribute effectively to the process of an actual peace based on justice and the restoration of the legitimate right to the people of Palestine.

Warren Christopher's testimony on hostage agreement

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is the testimony of Warren Christopher, U.S. deputy secretary of state, before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Feb. 17, 1981, on the Algiers declarations and the negotiations which led up to the release of the 52 American hostages held in Iran. Christopher was the U.S. negotiator with the Algerians and also signed the hostage agreement.)

I would like to address each of these points briefly in my testimony.

(No Apology)

Neither the declarations nor any of the associated documents contain any provision which constitutes an apology by the United States. The non-intervention pledge in Point 1 of the basic declaration is merely a reiteration of existing U.S. policy when it states that "it is and from now on will be the policy of the United States not to intervene" in Iran's internal affairs.

During the negotiations, Iran sought to have the non-intervention pledge stated solely in prospective terms — "from now on will be." That formulation was apparently intended to imply that the United States was changing its policy in return for the release. That formulation was rejected, and the resulting formulation represents no more than a reiteration of frequently-stated, current U.S. policy.

(No Ransom)

Under the declarations, the release of the hostages occurred without the payment of any funds or property of the United States or of U.S. nationals. The only funds or properties which are required to be paid over to Iran are Iranian funds or properties which were frozen by the Nov. 14, 1979 order of the president. These provisions are in accordance with the basic principle of the declarations that the parties will work toward the restoration of the financial situation which existed prior to the freeze order. In this connection, it should be remembered that the economic sanctions imposed on Iran exacted a heavy price in terms of the isolation of Iran and the disruption of its economy.

Two categories of Iran's assets — those in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and those of foreign branches of U.S. banks — were paid into escrow in the Bank of England, and it was of course this payment which "triggered" the release of the hostages. It is significant that only about 36 per cent of the funds and securities required to be paid into the escrow were then actually paid over to Iran. Specifically, of the \$7.95 billion required to be paid into the Bank of England escrow, \$3.67 billion was used to pay off debts of Iran to U.S. banks, \$1.4 billion was retained in the escrow account for the purpose of paying amounts disputed by the U.S. banking institutions or by Iran in connection with the loans and deposits, and only the remainder (approximately \$2.88 billion) was paid to Iran.

Although other categories of Iran's assets are required ultimately to be transferred to Iran — namely (a) Iran's assets in U.S. branches of U.S. banks; (b) Iran's financial assets held in U.S. non-banking institutions in the U.S. and abroad; and (c) Iran's other property held in the U.S. or abroad — \$1 billion of those Iranian assets will be placed in a security account to be used for the purpose of paying U.S. claims in accordance with the claims settlement procedures which I will describe in a moment. Since only Iranian funds were involved in the release of the hostages, it is plain that no ransom was paid.

(Non-Involvement in Iraq-Iran Conflict)

Since the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war on Sept. 22, 1980, fears have been expressed that, in connection with the release of the hostages, the U.S. might agree to undertake a new military supply relationship with Iran or to deliver a large amount of war material to Iran. To have done so would have brought charges that the U.S. has taken sides in the war, and compromised its position of non-involvement. Fortunately, the declarations permit the United States to maintain its position of non-involvement in the war. The United States is neither committed to undertake a new military supply relationship with Iran nor to turn over a large amount of war materials. Indeed, the declarations contain no reference at all to military supplies or war materials.

In connection with the ongoing requirement that the U.S. transfer Iranian properties in the U.S. to Iran (less \$1 billion to secure U.S. claims), the non-involvement position of the U.S. is fully protected by the provision that transfers be subject to the provisions of U.S. law applicable prior to Nov. 14, 1979, which means that the usual export and munitions controls will apply to transfer of property to Iran. This will enable the U.S. to insure that any transfers made do not result in the U.S. "taking sides" or otherwise becoming involved in the conflict.

(No Confiscation of Shah's Assets)

Throughout the crisis, Iran insisted on a return of the

wealth of the former Shah and his family. The demand was pressed even more vigorously after the death of the Shah in August 1980. Indeed, as recently as Dec. 19, 1980 Iran was demanding the establishment by the U.S. of a \$10 billion guarantee fund to insure the return of the Shah's wealth. During the negotiations, the U.S. never deviated from the position that under our system of government, the transfer of private property from one party to another can be ordered only pursuant to procedures which afford due process of law. Late in the negotiations Iran finally accepted that principle, and it is built into the declarations. As a result, the Shah's estate and his close relatives will have full protection of due process of law with respect to claims against their properties by Iran.

Under the declarations (Points 12-15) the U.S. has agreed to take certain actions in connection with any lawsuits brought by Iran regarding the Shah's wealth, but these commitments are carefully limited. The commitment to prohibit the transfer of Shah-related property will arise only when Iran has filed a lawsuit against, and served legal process upon, an individual who is alleged to be a close relative of the Shah; only then will his U.S. property be temporarily frozen. Such a freeze order will remain in effect only until the litigation is terminated as to any such defendant. The likelihood is that, even in the absence of such a freeze order, a court would place approximately the same restrictions on the property by judicial order.

Similarly, the requirement for the disclosure of information regarding the property of the former Shah or his family arises only upon the commencement of litigation, and the proper service of defendants. Once a close relative of the Shah has thus been served in litigation, persons with information about property of his in the U.S. will be required to report it to the Treasury, but the information to be furnished to the Treasury would be available to a plaintiff in any event under normal civil "discovery" procedures.

The other provisions of the basic declaration regarding the property of the Shah or his close relatives are in accord with existing U.S. law, and they fully protect the rights of the defendants. The United States refused to return the Shah to Iran prior to his death, and it has also steadfastly refused to confiscate and transfer his U.S. assets insisting instead of the maintenance of the constitutional requirements of due process of law.

(Claims Settlement Procedure)

One of the most challenging issues throughout the negotiations was to provide a suitable method for U.S. nationals to pursue their commercial claims against Iran, while responding to Iran's demand for the return of its frozen assets and a nullification of U.S. claims encumbering those assets. In order to reach agreement with Iran as to how U.S. claims would be validated and paid, it was essential to provide for a special impartial forum.

This issue was resolved through the establishment of the "Iran-United States Claims Tribunal," as provided for in the Claims Settlement Declaration. As is customary with such international tribunals, one third of the members of the Iran-U.S. Tribunal will be appointed by Iran, one third will be appointed by the U.S., and one third will be neutral. The tribunal will function in accordance with the rules of the U.N. Commission on International Trade Law.

One of the most significant features of the basic declaration is its establishment of a security account for the sole purpose of paying awards made by the tribunal against Iran. An initial deposit of \$1 billion will come from Iran's deposits in U.S. branches of U.S. banks. Moreover, the security account will operate under the "bottomless pitcher" concept, in that Iran is required to maintain a minimum balance of \$500 million in the account.

Once the two sides had agreed to establish the foregoing mechanism for validating and paying U.S. claims, it became possible for the U.S. to agree to require such claims to move their claims from the U.S. courts to the new forum and give up any judicial attachments on Iranian properties in the U.S. It should be noted, however, that U.S. claimants generally should be significantly better off with the new program than they were before the hostage crisis arose. Prior to the crisis, most of Iran's assets in the U.S. were protected by Iran's sovereign immunity, and for that and other reasons U.S. claimants would have faced great difficulty in actually collecting on their claims. Now, by contrast, Iran has committed itself to let claims be both liquidated before the special tribunal and paid from the bottomless pitcher.

In agreeing to this Claims Settlement Program, we re-

organized that some U.S. claimants would probably challenge the president's authority to proceed in this way, and the attorney general was of course closely consulted on the question. The attorney general's opinion of Jan. 19, 1981, reviews the legal issues with care and comes to the clear conclusion that the president was fully authorized to bring the Claims Settlement Program before the Senate and to sign the Without going into detail, that authority derives from the president's constitutional power to conduct foreign relations under Article II and from the authority conferred upon him by two statutes and a 1955 treaty with Iran. I was advised before the declarations of Algiers were initiated that the Department of Justice expected to be able to defeat all challenges to the president's authority to enter into these arrangements.

One of the questions raised with respect to these arrangements relates to the U.S. agreement to waive all damage claims by the hostages and their families against Iran. In evaluating the wisdom of that waiver, two factors should be kept in mind. First, most of the lawyers who have evaluated these potential damage claims agree that in all probability a statute enacted by Congress in 1976, the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, precludes the U.S. courts from hearing any such claims (because, among other reasons, they are based on torts committed outside the U.S.). To other words, the claims are probably without any real financial value. Second, it is quite clear that the release of the hostages could not have been achieved as it was without a waiver of the claims. In our consultations with the families of the hostages, most of them had indicated that they did not want the release of the hostages to be delayed by damage considerations. On this basis President Carter decided to waive the claims, but he also established a special commission to make recommendations to the new administration and the Congress as to how the hostages should be compensated for their ordeal. I have every confidence that the American people will see to it that fair compensation is forthcoming.

Conclusion

This concludes my discussion of the "four corners" of the settlement agreements (the two declarations and the undertakings). Allowing for my bias, it is my conviction that it is a good agreement and that the carrying out of the unexecuted portions of the agreement would be in the best interests of the United States and its citizens without regard to broader considerations such as U.S. foreign policy and our reputation for keeping our commitments.

The broader considerations which must be weighed in the scale, provide strong additional reasons for carrying out the declarations of Algiers. Those declarations were negotiated in good faith with the full authority of and with the active participation of the president of the United States. The United States adherence to the declarations was based upon the opinion of the attorney general that the declarations are binding commitments of the United States.

The declarations of Algiers were achieved through the active participation of a number of foreign governments who gave their assistance on the premise that the United States was acting in good faith. Algiers' skillful and dedicated performance of its role as intermediary was absolutely indispensable to a resolution of the crisis. I have no doubt that without Algeria's participation as intermediary, the hostages would not have emerged from their ordeal in time. The most senior officials of the United Kingdom were aware of the important role of the Bank of England, and facilitated it as appropriate. The Federal Republic of Germany played an active part as intermediary in September and October of 1980 in meetings which developed the general framework of the settlement ultimately reached, and they have continued to provide welcome counsel. Throughout the negotiations, the Swiss represented our interests in Tehran with great vigor and fidelity. Literally dozens of other nations aided in efforts to commence or pursue negotiations for the release of the hostages.

Against this background, repudiation of the declarations of Algiers, in whole or in part, would be regarded not only as a violation of our commitments to Iran but also as a breach of faith with Algeria, the United Kingdom, West Germany, Switzerland, and with many other countries that sought to help us achieve the release of the hostages through negotiations. Such an action would have, to understate the matter, a damaging effect on our international reputation and standing which would linger a long time and interfere with our capacity to carry out foreign policy.

WHAT JEOPARDY?

Signifying the importance of good relations with the Kingdom of the new American Secretary of State Alexander Haig has requested Ambassador John West to stay on the job until his successor is ready to come out here. The post is much too valuable for Saudi Arabian-U.S. relations to remain vacant for some time, the message implied and the Reagan administration means to maintain at that level.

West and his predecessor James Akins have rightly elevated the friendship of Saudi Arabia to one of the highest levels in an attempt to bring to the American public the indispensable service that Saudi Arabia is providing not only for the U.S., but for the world as a whole through various acts of wisdom and moderation.

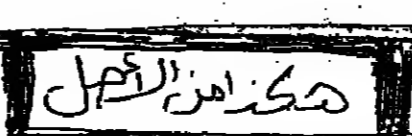
But these services could easily be undermined and the Saudi Arabian government becomes alienated if the U.S. administration continues to succumb to the pressures of the Zionist lobby which operates, against the interest of the United States, for those of the Zionist state. Yesterday a majority of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee expressed "their concern" about the possible sale of the accessories for the F-15 fighter planes bought by Saudi Arabia. Eight of the 15 members said in a letter to Reagan that "we recognize the security of Saudi Arabia is important to the U.S., but our interests in the region could be jeopardized were we to upset the regional balance of power." Is that right? Additional bomb racks and fuel tanks to the three score fighter planes, not yet even delivered can scarcely upset the regional balance of power; or match Israel's 500 U.S. supplied fighter planes, with more advanced technology and killing power.

The senators have decided that a country which has fought to keep the oil prices from soaring toward \$50 a barrel, by charging less than anybody else, and by pumping over 10 million barrels a day for the benefit of mankind, is a serious security risk that might upset the regional balance of power. The senators have indicated that the present balance of power, ought to remain in favor of Israel, even though antagonizing some of America's best and most valuable friends. It doesn't matter that Israel costs the U.S. more than \$3 billion a year to sit tight on the territories of four Arab states. But would it be too risky to supply the Kingdom with bomb racks and fuel tanks for its defense?

Reagan has indicated that his foreign policy will be more pragmatic than that of his predecessor who, in his hour of need for Jewish votes, promised not to deliver the additional equipment, forgetting too all that Saudi Arabia has done for America and the world during his term of office.

But there are limits to what even the best of friends can take. And there are alternatives which American statesmanship would do well to recognize and appreciate. The Arabs are already despairing of the seemingly absolute American support for Israel even while it violates some of America's own cherished principles.

Rubbing salt into the old wounds of friends will arouse their full fury and will hurt the same American interests that the senators are afraid now may be jeopardized by the sale of a few racks and fuel tanks.





Swedish King Carl and Queen Silvia with their children.



The King and the Queen celebrating the birthday of one of their children.

Swedish royalty begins a 'voyage of discovery'

By Nigel Harvey

STOCKHOLM — Sweden's royal couple emerge from their private apartment in Stockholm's 18th century royal palace through engraved doors into the elegant "yellow room" of its official hall with a large friendly black dog at their heels which breaks the ice.

King Carl XVI Gustav and Queen Silvia, young, and enormously popular in their social democratic realm, combine the dignity of their position with an almost informal, though Nordic atmosphere to ease us into the audience, a rare privilege for journalists. The royal couple settle well apart on a long four-person sofa to the discrete flickering of flashguns. Though many Swedes proudly point to the relative ordinariness of their royal couple, they also avidly follow the details of their lives.

The five-day state visit to Saudi Arabia is the royal couple's first venture into the Middle East. King Carl says he is looking forward very much to what should be an interesting and fruitful visit. Good relations with Saudi Arabia go back many years, he says, and there are many projects he's interested to see. "I understand there are no problems between the countries," he says, adding that the accompanying Foreign Minister, Ola Ullsten, will be able to hold substantive discussions

with his opposite number, Prince Saud Al Faisal, "thereby strengthening the relations."

"Of course," he adds in slow deliberate English, "I hope that when one has started to make contact, may be there will be other opportunities to take up subjects of further corporate cooperation in technology or industrial matters." One early suggestion was that the King should be on hand to open next month's Swedish technical week in Riyadh, although the idea was soon dropped. But Swedish businessmen hope the visit will prove something of a curtain raiser, and help boost trade with their main oil supplier and largest market outside the OECD.

While the royal couple's press attache can only think of one major government formality left that actually requires the Swedish head of state's signature — accreditation and posting of an ambassador — King Carl works a regular 9 to 5 day at the Stockholm Palace for his Kr 8 million annual government stipend. He coordinates replies to the hundred odd letters daily flooding the couple and manages the three dozen palace staff. He holds a few audiences daily and is frequently out opening schools, inspecting factories or attending conferences.

Queen Silvia keeps the first few morning hours free for the children but joins the King at work for the rest of the day, according to

the press attache, Mrs. Tarras Wahlberg. They lunch on *tamrie il krea*, from 1-2 p.m. and are joined once a week by their senior staff. Half the week's evenings are taken up with official functions. That night it was a Swedish Travellers Club dinner, lecture and an exhibition on a recent four month scientific expedition on to the north pole to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Swedish explorer Nordeskjold's journey to the north-west passage. King Carl joined the team on their ice-breaker vessel for a while.

The King meets the cabinet in full every two months or so and the prime minister is supposed to keep him abreast of parliamentary activity. Queen Silvia is president of the King and Queen's Wedding Foundation, a charity they set up which focuses on sport for the handicapped.

The children are still too young for official occasions. King Carl is keen on exercise and sport, he says. He hunts and fishes, skis in the winter and sails in the summer when he joins the annual race round Gotland island. He speaks highly of the Swedish tennis superstar and three times Wimbledon champion, Bjorn Borg. "He's very much a pure Swede. I think he's 100 per cent representative," the King said. "Very clean and a strong personality, because it's a very difficult sport and you have to be strong to exert the self control."

The King, an Admiral of the Navy and General of both the Army and the Air Force, was groomed for his role with working stints with the government, the foreign ministry including a spell with the U.N. mission, a London bank, and private industry. He is also an active farmer at his Stenhammar estate, west of Stockholm. Since the government recently effectively abolished private education in Sweden by withdrawing government subsidies, the two children are expected to go to an ordinary government school near a new palace, Drottningholm Slot, being built for the family near Stockholm.

King Carl was asked if had a goodwill message to send Saudi Arabia with. Since relations with the two countries are "as good as possible" he hoped for a peaceful 1981.

This Saudi trip is one of only one or two a year and so for Sweden a major event. If the countries are friendly but different, King Carl noted one surprising connection.

The program is tight for the three full days and was already fixed two weeks ago when the audience took place. It naturally includes ceremonial receptions and extended meetings with King Khalid, Crown Prince Fahd and Prince Saud Al Faisal, among others. Their majesties will also meet the Swedish community and visit Riyadh's King Faisal hospital, Dhahran's University of Petroleum

and Minerals and new Swedish-built 7,000 cow dairy in Abari, the kingdom's biggest. A traditional tented bedouin feast outside Riyadh is a more unusual item for them and scheduled for Sunday night, though when we met they had little idea what it might be like.

Queen Silvia said that it will be a "totally new event." A sparkling personality has made the 37-year-old Heidelberg-born German commoner popular in her new country since the royal marriage four and a half years ago. The romance has itself long entered Swedish folklore, especially after King Carl coined the phrase "royal click" to describe their first meeting during the 1972 Munich Olympics where Miss Silvia Sommerlath was the chief hostess.

King Carl, however, is the family cook when time allows, "a connoisseur," her majesty assures us. He also enthuses about the desert dinner: "I'm looking forward to the traditional gathering. You get an understanding of more of the habits of different people."

He draws strong parallels between the Saudi taste for desert life and the Swedish one for the outdoors and camping. "I think it's a nice way of life," he says, adding that he's a nature enthusiast and a strong supporter of the Boy Scouts movement.

Asked about her ideas of Arab women,

Queen Silvia says she has none in advance and is looking forward very much to the opportunity of talking to them and learning about the country. She speaks five languages and grew up in South America.

King Carl says that beyond strengthening relations, an important part of a visit is to help people understand each other more. He admits to little Saudi knowledge but hopes for more after the visit.

He also points out that a group of Swedish journalists will be with him. Reporters specially with the high access and interesting content of a state visit, "can see things, maybe meet people and try to understand the atmosphere, traditions and religion of your country." They should then be "able to bring it back to Sweden," he says. "I think that's a change of understanding between countries."

He hoped the reporters would make good use of the opportunity, though one Swedish businessman I spoke to in Stockholm was so fearful of an unsympathetic press that he hoped that a threatened national Swedish-journalists strike would indeed prevent all of them from coming.

The contrasts between Sweden and Saudi Arabia, however, are glaring. While Saudi Arabia retains its social traditions, Sweden is probably the most progressive western-style liberal state.

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At Bulawayo camp

Soviet arms seized from Nkomo troops

BULAWAYO, Feb. 20 (AP) — Zimbabwe national army troops have confiscated Soviet-made tanks, field guns and armored personnel carriers held by Joshua Nkomo's former guerrillas at a camp southeast of here, military sources said.

The troops of the former white-minority government commandeered the military gear in a peaceful Thursday operation ordered by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, the sources said, and took it to Brady barracks just outside Bulawayo.

Some 250 former guerrillas of the Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA) loyal to Nkomo have been stationed at Essekale, about 40 kms south-east of here, with Soviet-made equipment shipped into the country from neighboring Zambia during the seven-year war for Zim-

babwe's independence.

Nkomo, Mugabe's junior partner in the coalition government and minister without portfolio, commanded during the war a guerrilla army from the local Matabele people. Mugabe, who came to power in British-supervised elections in February 1980 after the war against nine decades of white rule, commanded the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (ZANLA) made up of fighters from the majority Shona tribe.

The two forces, though politically and tribally divided, fought the war against the former Rhodesian government under a loose alliance called the Patriotic Front to bring about black-majority rule. But peacetime relations between the former guerrilla armies have been hostile.

The rival forces battled each other last week in four camps around the country against a backdrop of mounting unrest among ZIPRA guerrillas angered by the demotion of their leader, Nkomo, in a cabinet shuffle announced by Mugabe last month.

The fighting was ended with an assault on two camps by white-officered national army battalions which fought for Rhodesia during the war and are awaiting integration with the guerrillas into a new national force.

But at Essekale ZIPRA guerrillas remained encamped with six Soviet-made T-54 tanks, several armored personnel carriers and field guns. A truce was reached last week between rival guerrilla commanders on the condition that the fighters be moved away from cities to separate camps in the countryside. Thursday's move was seen as a further effort to disarm the dissident elements.

A five-vehicle armored column dispatched from Essekale to reinforce ZIPRA guerrillas in Bulawayo at the height of the fighting in the middle of last week was wiped out by armored cars of the former Rhodesian forces — all white-officered — just south of here.

Japanese child dies of alcohol poisoning

SHINJI, Feb. 20 (AFP) — A three-year-old girl died of acute alcohol poisoning in this north Japanese town after drinking about 150 c.c. (about one quarter of a pint) of sake (rice wine), police said Thursday.

Yoriko Kurita, second daughter of restaurant owner Hisazo Kurita, sat in her grandmother's lap and shared the sake her father had prepared for guests at the family home last Monday night. Next morning she was found in bed trembling and foaming at the mouth. She was rushed to hospital, where she died of kidney damage, acute bronchitis and shock from alcohol poisoning.



RETURNING TO CAMP: Armed ZIPRA men loyal to Zimbabwe Cabinet Minister Joshua Nkomo return to their Estumbane camp after they were disarmed by white-officered national army battalions last week.

Thailand's charge

Soviet presence in Vietnam shows 'startling increase'

BANGKOK, Feb. 20 (AP) — Thailand's national security chief has charged that the Soviet Union had substantially increased its arms and aid supplies to Vietnam, and was seeking to establish military bases in Kampuchea and Laos.

The secretary general of the national security council, squadron leader Prasong Soonsiri, told the Foreign Correspondent club of Thailand Thursday that Soviet assistance to Vietnam was currently running at \$6 million per day — double the previous Western estimates.

He said that after the one-month border war between Vietnam and China two years ago, Moscow sent huge support in aid arms to Vietnam. He estimated that Soviet assistance had increased from \$3.5 million or \$4 million per day to \$6 million per day, within 12 or 18 months.

He said that the continued occupation of Kampuchea by Vietnamese forces and the Vietnamese military presence in Laos had permitted the establishment of an increased Soviet presence in those countries and in Vietnam itself. "The gains that Moscow has made in the past five years have almost certainly been worth the cost of supporting the Vietnamese economy and war machine," he said.

"Moscow's support of (Vietnamese) military aggression, and its efforts to expand its

own military and naval presence by the establishment of bases and installations in Vietnam and Kampuchea has increased the tension in southeast Asia, said Prasong.

He later clarified this remark by saying that Soviet engineers were building up the Kampuchean port of Kompong Som and restoring roads and communications between the port and the Kampuchean capital of Phnom Penh. Vietnam has 200,000 troops in Kampuchea where it installed a pro-Hanoi regime during an invasion two years ago, and about 40,000 troops in Laos. Vietnam has acknowledged that the Soviets have been building up Vietnamese military installations at Cam Ranh Bay and Da Nang, and has denied they are for use as Soviet bases.

However, Prasong said that the development of naval bases in Vietnam and Kampuchea coincided with a "startling increase" of Soviet aircraft and naval ships in the area since 1975. He linked these events to what he called a "major power vacuum" created by the withdrawal of Western forces from the southeast Asian area.

Prasong reiterated the Thai government's commitment to a U.N.-sponsored international conference on Kampuchea and rejection of a recent proposal of Vietnam for a conference between Communist Indochina and the non-Communist states of southeast Asia.

For heart-to-heart talks

Suzuki to meet Reagan

TOKYO, Feb. 20 (AP) — Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki said Friday he would hold talks with President Ronald Reagan and other U.S. leaders in Washington around May 7 and 8. Interviewed by Fuji Television, Suzuki said the domestic and foreign policies of the new Reagan administration "have begun to take firm shape" and he is eager to meet the U.S. president for "heart-to-heart talks on bilateral and international problems."

Earlier in the day Chief Cabinet Minister Kiuchi Miyazawa, said the schedule of the prime minister's visit to Washington, his first since assuming office last July, has been worked out except for a few minor details still to be discussed with Washington.

Meanwhile, in a Diet (parliament) session, Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito said the auto issue is certain to come up when he travels to Washington for top-level talks beginning March 21. Ito said Suzuki had told him to work toward resolving the problem of the flood of Japanese auto imports into the United States before the prime minister's May visit to Washington.

Ito said it would be a "lack of policy" for Japan to allow the auto issue to become a political problem. He said that every effort must be made to prevent trade problems from being linked to the issue of Japan's defense spending.

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Former pilot says

Managua aids Salvador rebels

SAN SALVADOR, Feb. 20 (Agencies) — A former pilot for Nicaragua's national air force said Thursday night he flew to El Salvador with arms for leftist guerrillas twice, that top Nicaraguan leaders, including prior Minister Tomas Borge, knew of and guided the operations. There was no immediate response from Nicaragua's Socialist government.

by a man he identified as Costa Rican Fernando Carrasco. He said airports in the Nicaraguan cities of Monte Limar, Leon and Augusto Cesar Sandino international airport in Managua were being used for arms flights here. He said he had also seen at the Managua airport arms arrive on Cuban flights — flights received by Nicaraguan officials.

schools into barracks." The front said the U.S. attitude should remind the world of what happened "IN Vietnam." Meanwhile, American attempts to persuade European governments that the ruling junta in El Salvador must be defended against leftist guerrillas could mark the end of President Ronald Reagan's honeymoon with American allies, diplomatic sources said in Washington Friday. They were commenting on a tour of European capitals, ending in Bonn Friday, by Reagan's designated deputy secretary of state for European affairs, Lawrence Eagleburger.



PAT FROM PRESIDENT: President Ronald Reagan pounds on the window of Marine One after landing at Andrews Air Force Base Thursday. President Reagan was trying to get the attention of the pilot to thank him for the trip from the White House. The president will spend the weekend at his California retreat.

Opposition to Trudeau's plan growing

OTTAWA, Feb. 20 (R) — Opposition to Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's plans for constitutional reform appeared to be growing as parliament began its third day debate Thursday on the issue. Four members of parliament belonging to the New Democratic Party (NDP), Canada's third-biggest political grouping, have said they would vote against the package.

The NDP had promised to support Trudeau in his move to return the country's constitution to the control of the Canadian government. Because of the country's colonial past, any amendments to the constitution must still be approved by the British parliament. The four NDP members who announced their opposition are from the western province of Saskatchewan. The province's premier, Allan Blakeney, is also expected to announce his opposition.

The loss of support from Saskatchewan is important because Trudeau's plan is under attack from resource-rich western provinces, increasingly bitter at eastern politicians both over the reform package and Ottawa's energy program. With the loss of Saskatchewan, seven of Canada's 10 provinces would be lined up against Trudeau's liberal government. New Brunswick and Ontario support the government while Nova Scotia has remained neutral. One element of Trudeau's package is a proposed charter of rights. Opposition from some of the provinces comes because they fear its centerist nature cuts across their authority to vary human and language rights.

They also believe the charter would usurp some of their control over revenue from natural resources. The debate in parliament is likely to last several weeks.

Assembly to be reconvened

U.N. to discuss Namibia

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 20 (Agencies) — The president of the U.N. General Assembly said Thursday night that he proposed to reconvene it March 2 for a three-day debate on the question of Namibia, or Southwest Africa.

West German ambassador Ruediger Von Wechmar, who presides over the assembly's currently recessed 35th session, told reporters he would ask chairmen of U.N. regional groups next Monday to agree on resumption of the session for those three days to act on resolutions put forward in the annual report of the U.N. council for Namibia.

Some of those resolutions would have the assembly applaud the Southwest Africa People's Organization's "armed struggle" for Namibia's independence from South Africa, accuse Israel, France, West Germany and the United States of "collusion" with South Africa in the nuclear field, and ask the United States, Canada, Britain, France, West Germany, Switzerland and Japan to bar their corporations from dealing in Namibian uranium.

Von Wechmar was interviewed at a Panamanian reception after speaking with the president of the council for Namibia, Zambian ambassador Paul J.F. Lusaka. Hours earlier, that council had authorized its president to consult with Von Wechmar and "other interested parties" with a view to combat sclerosis.

Most of them never touch alcohol, although Georgia's elderly tipplers do like the occasional thimble-full of wine. Other secrets of their success: good humor, happy marriages, and lots of offspring. Doubting Thomases are told to go and see Adam and Manna Akhmedov, a loving couple whose children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren can all testify to the couple's 102 years of happy married life.

For political statements Brazil threatens to expel Esquivel

SAO PAULO, Feb. 20 (AP) — Nobel prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel of Argentina was detained briefly by Brazilian police here Thursday night and was warned that further political statements from him could result in his expulsion from the city.

Perez Esquivel refused to talk to reporters as he was released by police at 10:25 p.m. at the time, but his spokesman said the order to detain Perez Esquivel had come from the central justice ministry.

The federal police superintendent warned Perez Esquivel during a more than two-hour interview in police headquarters "that what he said in Brazil was an infringement of foreigners' law," according to Jose Grell, chairman of a church-linked justice and peace committee. The controversial law regulates foreigners in Brazil was passed last year, and provides for the expulsion of alien residents or visitors who speak out publicly on political issues.

Argentinian police mentioned specific elements Perez Esquivel had made in the Sao Paulo newspaper Thursday. They had quoted Perez Esquivel as saying he reported former political prisoners' efforts to identify their torturers, since "to ask for justice is not to ask for revenge." Last week the Brazilian military ministers had condemned such efforts by former opponents of Brazil's military regime, calling them vengeful and a threat to the country's political liberalization program.

A Sao Paulo cardinal accompanied the silent and somber-looking Perez Esquivel as he left police headquarters, and told reporters "I will speak for Esquivel — this is Brazil's greatest absurdity, arresting a man of peace."

Perez Esquivel returned to a private residence after his release, and spokesman for the Nobel prize winner said he planned to continue his program of speeches and meetings.

According to eyewitnesses, Perez Esquivel had been arrested shortly after 8 p.m. local time when he arrived at a college for a meeting with Brazilian labor leaders. Included in the meeting was Luis Inacio Da Silva, who is known here as Lula and is facing trial on charges stemming from last year's metal workers' strike in Sao Paulo.

The witnesses said Perez Esquivel was met at the door of the college by two well-dressed men who identified themselves as federal police and then escorted him to federal police headquarters.

2 West Germans held in Bombay on tip-off

NEW DELHI, Feb. 20 (AP) — Two West Germans, one of whom is wanted in connection with a bank robbery in West Berlin, have been arrested in the western port city of Bombay by Indian police, news reports said Friday. Police said that Werner Voigt and his girl friend, Anna Weise, were detained last Tuesday and that the pair did not possess valid travel documents.

A police spokesman told reporters in Bombay that the detainees followed a tip-off from Interpol, the international police agency, about Voigt. The 30-year-old man is wanted by West Berlin police in connection with a bank robbery last year in which one person was killed and about \$230,000 stolen. Voigt allegedly supplied a machine pistol used by another man in the holdup.

Russians give recipes for longevity

MOSCOW, Feb. 20 (AFP) — The old timers of the Soviet Union have been giving away their recipes for longevity. The country's centenarians claim that life lasts longer for people who keep close tabs on their nervous systems, take things at the same pace both at work and rest, exercise regularly and eat healthy food.

And they tell the cynics: we must know, "There are more than 21,000 of us. According to a survey last year, 10 in every 100,000 Soviets are enjoying three-figure birthdays, against only 1.5 Americans, 0.7 French, 0.6 Britons and 0.1 Japanese.

Most of the Soviet Union's 5,432 male and 16,276 female centenarians come from the Caucasus and central Asia. Azerbaijan has 48 per 100,000 inhabitants, Georgia 39 per 100,000 and Armenia 24 per 100,000. The Soviet press reported the case of one Shirin Gassanov, a staggering 154 years old when he finally dropped dead in 1971. This ancient Azerbaijani, the papers pointed out, was a toddler during the battle of Waterloo and already in his 100's by the October revolution.

Doctors agree that the fresh mountain air of the Caucasus range and central Asia is a major factor in longevity, coupled with the pure, unpolluted water from these regions. But other specialists question the reliability of statistics which often lack official proof such as birth certificates.

Russian old timers are extremely diet-conscious, sticking to the principle: "better to eat too little than too much." It is a pragmatic attitude for a people regularly faced with chronic hold-ups in food supplies. Obesity is not a problem among centenarians, their favorite foods being raw vegetables and fruit with a preference for honey over sugar. They also consume milk, cheese and yoghurt to

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Miners in U.K. end strike

LONDON, Feb. 20 (AFP) — The leaders of Britain's coalminers have called off a threatened national strike following the National Coal Board's (NCB) reversal of a decision to shut down more than 20 pits considered uneconomical, but many miners stayed out on wildcat strike, backed by their regional officials.

The executive of the National Union of Miners (NUM) which had said previously it would recommend an indefinite strike, warned, however, it would reconsider strike action if negotiations with the NCB break down.

The NCB reversed its decision after it received assurances of financial aid from the government.

The government's pledge has been seen here as a major climb-down by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's hitherto a hard-line monetarist policy opposed to state intervention in ailing industries.

The NUM also urged miners who had anticipated the strike call to go back to work. But in south Wales 26,000 striking miners said they were staying out until their regional leaders had met, and Arthur Scargill, left-wing leader of 66,000 Yorkshire miners, has refused to call his men back in and says he will recommend that they go on official strike from Monday.

In Scotland, the leaders of the country's 20,000 miners were deciding later Thursday whether to advise strikers to go back to work. Many rank-and-file miners say they will only believe the government's promise when they see it in "black and white."

The Welsh miners said they would continue their strike until the threat of pit closings was canceled throughout Britain.

The coal board had said it planned to close 23 uneconomic pits, leaving about 20,000 miners jobless. Mr. Gornley said last night that despite the board's concessions Wednesday, some pits still would be closed.

The agreement Wednesday was the first such major concession to unions by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, known as the "iron lady" for her fierce and often inflexible resolve.

U.S. urged to participate in North-South dialogue

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 20 (AP) — The new United States administration was urged Thursday to join talks taking place here looking toward a broad U.N. conference for global negotiations on economic issues that divide the industrialized North and the developing South.

West German Ambassador Ruediger Von Wechmar, who has been conducting the talks as president of the U.N. General Assembly, pressed the point at a luncheon speech to the foreign policy association and the U.N. Association of the United States at a New York hotel.

Von Wechmar said one decision President Ronald Reagan's new administration in Washington faced was whether to continue U.S. participation in the preparatory consultations for global negotiations under way since last September.

U.N. members, he went on, are asking what U.S. policy will be now toward the United Nations and the third world and how the country will see the issue of the North-South negotiations.

Von Wechmar said delegates from several developing countries had recalled that

Americans had "always stood by the poor and the oppressed" and could not conceive that the United States would overlook the economic and political benefits to be gained from supporting global negotiations.

"The Reagan team is now in the process of becoming acquainted with the details of the subject," he said. "This is good news, because in the end it will be the United States that can make or break the exercise."

"I hope," he added, "that negative experiences with two or three or even half a dozen countries will not affect American attitudes to the developing countries as a whole."

Mrs. F. Kirkpatrick, the United States' new U.N. ambassador, attended the luncheon and had a conversation with Von Wechmar at a Panamanian reception here Thursday night.

He added he was in Washington earlier in the week, and a well placed source said he came back discouraged about the prospect of involving the new U.S. government quickly in the negotiations.

In his luncheon speech, the text of which was issued here, Von Wechmar argued that the developed as well as the developing countries stood to gain from global negotiations.

Japan ready to finance Polish debt

TOKYO, Feb. 20 (R) — Japan is willing to contribute to any financial package put together by the United States and other Western nations to help Poland overcome a foreign exchange shortage, government officials here said.

But the trade ministry officials refused Thursday to comment on a Japanese newspaper report saying major industrial democracies, including the United States, Japan and West Germany, would meet in Paris early next week to discuss aid for Poland.

The financial daily *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* said the main issue at the Paris meeting would be whether one-year loans or three-month credits should be supplied to help finance Polish debts falling due this year.

The officials said Poland had sounded out the Japanese government on the possibility of a Japanese loan, but no figure was mentioned.

Some Western nations have discussed aid for Poland, but the United States has been slow in taking a firm stance because the Reagan administration was working out its overall economic policy, they added.

Taipei to promote trade with Europe

TAIPEI, Feb. 20 (AFP) — The Board of Trade has decided to sponsor a European products' show in Taipei from May 4 to 10 to promote trade with European countries, it was learned here.

Economics Minister Chang Kwang-Shih has instructed the board to invite countries in western Europe to take part in the unprecedented trade fair.

The board said Thursday that manufacturers from 13 countries — Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Britain, France, Italy, Greece, the

Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, West Germany, Sweden and Portugal — would take part in the one-week display.

The exhibition will be held at the China External Trade Development Council's show-ground in Taipei. The European manufacturers will present machinery, electrical appliances, agricultural produce, metal goods, electronic products, transport equipment, textile products, petrochemical products and processed food at 677 stands.

European slump, strong dollar

U.S. multinationals fear fall in exports

NEW YORK, Feb. 20 (R) — The strong dollar and the economic slump in West Europe are worrying U.S. multinational companies which expect the double squeeze to hurt their profits in the first half of 1981.

Financial analysts here said the squeeze on company earnings had tightened this year as the dollar's rise against other currencies quickened, making U.S. exports more expensive.

The situation has been aggravated by the West European recession which reduced demand and now looks more nervous than expected.

The analysts said the companies saw little chance of compensating for lost overseas earnings by increasing domestic business because the Reagan administration's battle against inflation meant the U.S. economy was itself almost certain to be subdued.

One analyst Rein Van Der Does of stockbrokers Drexel Burnham Lambert, calculates that in the past 13 months the dollar rose 19.1 per cent against the West German mark,

19.2 per cent against the lira and 17.3 per cent against the Swiss franc.

Van Der Does said West Germany, which accounts for about one-third of the output of the European Common Market, was typical of what was happening in most of Europe. It was suffering an economic downturn more severe than generally expected with industrial production down 1.7 per cent in December.

But the battered mark, which fell to a three-year low against the dollar of 2.25 this week before recovering to 2.17, is making the country's exports more competitive, and many West Germany companies are turning to foreign markets for growth. So the competition for U.S. companies abroad will intensify.

Earlier this month, the West German Economics Ministry reported foreign industrial orders for last December were up by 10.3 per cent at an annual rate. Van Der Does said the squeeze would affect U.S. multinationals in different ways, consumer goods

companies would probably be worse hit by the firm dollar, and capital goods corporations by the depressed west European economies.

Larry Smith of Smith Barney Harris Upham said the sales of U.S. drug companies in 16 foreign markets could fall five per cent because of the dollar's strength.

Even if the dollar stayed at its current levels, the companies' total sales would be cut by three per cent, he said.

Three drug companies — Merrell-Richardson, Squibb and Warner Lambert — were likely to suffer most because of their heavy exports to western Europe, he forecast. However, companies which buy large amounts of raw materials in currencies other than the dollar could benefit.

Some companies have escaped the worst effects of the currency swings by hedging future foreign currency receipts on the foreign exchange market. This practice could increase, particularly if the dollar made further ground, the analysts said.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1981

U.S., Algeria talks on gas prices fail

By Cynthia Shanley
Houston Bureau

HOUSTON, Feb. 20 — Negotiations between Houston-based El Paso Co. and Algeria have not been successful, according to a spokesman for El Paso. Further information would be released at a later date, he said. Negotiations were over a ten-month discovery gas price.

Algeria suspended gas deliveries to the importing company El Paso last April after the U.S. refused to accept a rise in the price of natural gas from \$1.94 per million BTU to \$6 per million BTU. A special Algerian parliamentary committee determined earlier in the dispute that El Paso was morally responsible for causing the Algerian state oil and gas corporation to lose earnings estimated at \$290 million in the ten years following the signing of a contract. In 1969, El Paso signed a contract under which it would take delivery of gas over a 25-year period. Deliveries began in March of 1978 under the contract. In May 1979 and amended to provide a price of \$1.75 per BTU through 1980, 1983, with the price to be revised every four years.

The commission found that the indexing formula, world inflation and huge overruns were responsible for the fall in profits.

In Washington, the U.S. Energy Department confirmed Thursday talks on gas prices had failed and said no further meetings are planned.

The deadlock highlighted the problems facing Algeria's attempt to boost natural gas prices to equal those of oil, in terms of heat delivered, industry experts said Thursday.

The attempt has been watched by exporters of gas throughout the world, many of whom were expected to follow Algeria's pricing lead.

A U.S. delegation left Algiers Thursday night after two days of talks which the Energy Department said had met with no success.

Informed sources in Algiers had expected the talks there Tuesday and Wednesday to lead to a renewal of deliveries at a provisional, compromise price of between \$4 and \$4.60.

U.S. spokesmen also said that the improvement in relations with Algeria following the Algerian government's role in release of the U.S. hostages in Iran might help the two countries reach an agreement.

No details on the deadlock were immediately available, but informed sources in Algiers said the U.S. had repeated an offer to pay \$4 per million BTU for the gas.

U.S. spokesmen said this was a relatively high price since the U.S. also faced transport costs of more than \$1.50 per million BTU. The U.S. is, at present, paying less than \$4.50 per million BTU for Canadian and Mexican gas delivered to its borders.

Japan seen to lead in GDP growth

LONDON, Feb. 20 (R) — The seven major industrial countries can expect average growth of just under one per cent in their gross domestic product (GDP) this year, according to a gloomy report on the world economy published here.

The report by the intelligence unit of the Economist magazine predicted that Japan would do best among the seven industrial giants, but with a modest increase of 2.5 per cent in GDP — the total output of goods and services.

In the United States, where interest rates are currently at 19 per cent or more, GDP growth in 1981 will not be much above one per cent, the report said.

Renewed growth in the U.S. economy is expected in the second half of the year as interest rates fall, but this will follow a poor first half as recovery from last year's recession is blighted by the high cost of borrowing, it said.

The West German economy is likely to contract by about one per cent, while Britain's is expected to fall by two per cent, the report said.

Some forecasters have been saying the world should begin to recover later this year from the recession if there are no new shocks such as a leap in oil prices. But Thursday's report was in line with the 24-nation Organization for Cooperation and Development (OECD) which foresees growth of only 1.5 per cent in its area in the first half of 1981, rising to 2.25 per cent in the second half.

The Economist said it expected the French and Italian GDP to rise 1.5 per cent, while Canada should have a 1.2 per cent increase.

China's offshore oil discovery confirms large reserves

PARIS, Feb. 20 (R) — The first oil find in a new wave of exploration aimed at confirming large reserves off the Chinese mainland has been announced by the French oil firm Compagnie Francaise des Petroles (CFP).

It said its subsidiary Total China had found significant showings of hydrocarbons in a well in the Yellow Sea off northern China. But a final evaluation would only be made when drilling of the well was complete.

Oil experts believe China has large, recoverable offshore reserves of at least 25 billion barrels, a similar amount to those under the whole of the North Sea. The reserves are largely untapped although China has some offshore rigs.

CFP, ELF-Aquitaine of France and the Japanese Nodon Oil Corporation (JNOC) were the first companies to sign offshore drilling contracts with China and have just begun work. CFP said Thursday's announcement was its first result, while ELF and JNOC have not yet reported any finds.

Around 20 oil companies mainly from the U.S. and west Europe have been involved in geological and seismic surveys in China. Others amongst them hope to be awarded offshore drilling contracts soon, oil industry sources said.

China's oil production has established at 106 million tons (780 million barrels) a year. Western experts believe China's total recoverable reserves may be around 50 billion barrels.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 5:00 P.M. Wednesday

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
U.S. Dollar	—	8.25	8.88
France (1,000)	96.00	112.00	—
U.S. Dollar	—	2.80	—
U.S. Mark (100)	155.00	155.00	154.70
U.S. Dollar	—	142.00	—
U.S. Pound	—	4.18	4.34
U.S. Dirham (100)	—	91.15	91.15
U.S. Franc (100)	67.00	68.00	67.00
U.S. Dracmas (1,000)	—	—	—
U.S. Rials (100)	—	—	40.90
U.S. Dollar	—	8.25	—
U.S. Lira (10,000)	33.00	33.50	32.80
U.S. Yen (1,000)	16.20	—	16.40
U.S. Dollar	—	10.51	10.36
U.S. Dollar	—	12.24	12.18
U.S. Lira (100)	—	84.50	84.45
U.S. Dirham (100)	—	71.25	70.25
U.S. Ropes (100)	—	33.80	33.85
U.S. Peseta (100)	—	—	43.95
U.S. Sterling	7.61	7.70	7.62
U.S. Riyal (100)	—	91.95	92.00
U.S. Dollar	—	—	159.88
U.S. Peseta (1,000)	—	—	29.00
U.S. Franc (100)	170.00	171.00	170.65
U.S. Lira (100)	—	57.50	85.95
U.S. Lira (1,000)	—	36.00	—
U.S. Dollar	3.34	3.345	3.341
U.S. Riyal (100)	—	73.25	73.24
U.S. kg.	—	54,600.00	—
U.S. Tolas bar	—	6,360.00	—
U.S. msc	—	1,700.00	—

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BRIEFS

NUREMBERG, (AFP) — The figure for officially-registered unemployed in West Germany this month will be about 1,400,000, against 1,308,000 in January, Helmut Manta, deputy chief of the Federal Labor Office, told the newspaper *Staengarter Nachrichten* Friday.

SINGAPORE, (AFP) — Aer Lingus of Ireland can fly to Singapore and beyond under an air agreement announced here Friday. Singapore Airlines may operate to Ireland and beyond under the deal, which was concluded here by Noel, transport secretary, and Lim Hock San, Singapore's civil aviation director.

NEW DELHI, (AFP) — Food output in India during the financial year ending next month is officially forecast at an all-time high of 133 million tons. The government said Friday the rice crop was an estimated 56 million tons, about two million tons above the previous record production. Wheat was also expected to show up as a record at 36 million

tons.

PARIS, (AFP) — French sandal producers hope shortly to reach an agreement with China that will curb shipments of cheap sandals to France, the trade body concerned has said. Tennis shoes from Hong Kong and boots from Yugoslavia are also worrying the footwear industry.

ROME, (AP) — The U.N. International Fund for Agricultural Development and Pakistan Friday signed a \$12.8 million loan for a project aimed at improving the income and living standards of poor farmers in Pakistan's rain-fed areas, IFAO announced.

SAO PAULO, (AFP) — Henry Ford, director of Ford Motor Company, warned the U.S. government during a factory inspection here against Japanese competition in the U.S. market, noting that Japanese firms now had one quarter of the business. His own company was going through a serious crisis, but this would be surmounted within a year or two, he said.

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18th. to 19th.		
20th. to 22nd.	BURA YDA	
23rd. to 24th.		
26th. to 28th.	JEOOAH	Al Drees, Jeddah Branch
30th. to 31st.	YAMBU	
APRIL		
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Exeter moves ahead

LONDON, Feb. 20 (R) — Exeter City rose from the obscurity of the Third Division to reach the quarter-finals of the English Football Association Cup by thrashing Newcastle 4-0 Wednesday night.

It was a result which upheld the competition's reputation for the unexpected and thrust Exeter into a quarter-final meeting with Tottenham Hotspur, one of English soccer's most famous clubs whose players include Argentine World Cup hero Osvaldo Ardiles.

Newcastle, from the Second Division, were never in Wednesday's fifth round replay after conceding two goals, in the first 19 minutes. Peter Hatch gave Exeter a 13th-minute lead, Ian Peason made it 2-0 and after Peter Rogers had increased the halftime score to 3-0, Martyn Rogers completed the scoring three minutes from time.

European champions Nottingham Forest won their First Division encounter with Stoke City 2-1 after Mike Doyle had given them a goal start by turning the ball into his own net after eight minutes.

Adrian Heath equalized for Stoke but Forest snatched the winner when Trevor Francis crossed for Colin Walsh to score.

In a Division Three match, Reading and Newport drew 1-1 while in the Scottish F.A. Cup fourth round replay, Rangers beat St. Johnstone 3-1 and are now at home to Hibernian in the quarter-finals.

Belgium fails to impress

BRUSSELS, Feb. 20 (R) — Belgium, runners up in the European Championship, led Cyprus 2-0 after 11 minutes but then scrapped home only 3-2 in a World Soccer Cup qualifying match Wednesday night.

The result was a major setback for the Belgians who had been expected to win comfortably and take over the lead in European Group two. Instead, while they drew level on points with the Republic of Ireland, they did not improve their goal record sufficiently to move to the top of the table.

Goals by Gerard Plessers and Erwin Vandenberghe gave Belgium the sort of start they must have hoped for—but then events took a dramatic turn.

Stephanos Lysandrou pulled a goal back before halftime and with half an hour to go Fivos Vrahimis put the Cypriots on terms raising their hopes of gaining their first point in five qualifying games.

But Jan Ceulemans rescued both points for Belgium with the winning goal in the 67th minute.

Belgium enjoyed territorial advantage

almost continuously and could have gone in front as early as the second minute. But they soon made up for that lapse with Plessers' goal after six minutes and they coked to be on the brink of routing the Cypriots when Vandenberghe made it 2-0 five minutes later.

It was with the first chance they created that Cyprus pulled a goal back in the 41st minute. Vrahimis put over a free kick and Lysandrou, unattended in front of goal, picked his spot.

Vrahimis got the next goal, pushing the ball into an empty net after Belgian goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff had been drawn off his line.

Ceulemans' goal came as a tremendous relief to the Belgian side and their supporters but they continued to squander chances which in the final analysis could be crucial in qualifying for the World Cup finals in Spain next year.

STANDINGS:	F	P	D	L	F	A	P.TS.
Ireland	5	3	1	1	12	6	7
Belgium	4	3	1	0	7	3	7
France	2	2	0	0	9	4	4
Netherlands	2	0	0	2	1	3	0
Cyprus	5	0	0	5	4	21	0

In English soccer

Ipswich, Aston Villa will have to watch out

LONDON, Feb. 20 (AP) — Ipswich and Aston Villa re-new their tussle at the head of the English First Division Soccer Saturday in the knowledge that with two thirds of the season over, any slip-ups against weaker opposition could prove costly in the race for

the league title.

Villa will have this particularly in mind when it plays bottom club Crystal Palace at Villa Park.

On paper, it's a home win for certain and another two points in the bag for Villa. But Ron Saunders' team must guard against complacency. Palace recently held a half-time lead at League leader Ipswich before going down 3-2.

But a humiliating 0-3 home defeat by Coventry on Tuesday has added to Palace's woes and the side, chopped and changed by new manager Dario Gradi in search of a winning formula, has an almighty task to lift itself in front of the Villa fans.

Two Villa players, captain Dennis Mortimer and full-back Ken Swann, were sent home from training on Wednesday suffering from flu. But both are expected to play against Palace.

Ipswich won its vital game in hand over Villa on Tuesday, beating Middlesbrough 1-0 at home, and now has a clear two-point lead over its main rival. Both have played 29 games, with Ipswich on 44 points and Villa on 42. Next comes Liverpool with 37 points from 30 matches.

Like Villa, Ipswich has a comfortable-looking home game against lowly Wolverhampton Wanderers and is expected to hold on to its two-point lead at the top.

Ipswich, in its best season for many years, is going for an impossible-looking treble—the League, F.A. Cup and UEFA Cup—and as yet the side has shown little sign of strain.

West Indies record innings win

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad, Feb. 20 (AP) — England's batting crumbled to fast bowling for the second time in the match and the West Indies won the first cricket Test by a resounding innings and 79 runs here Wednesday.

Only the weather, which resulted in the loss of just over an hour's play, and a defiant 70 by the 40-year-old opening batsman Geoff Boycott caused the West Indies any anxiety on their way to victory.

Throughout the day, their battery of four fast bowlers kept England with their backs to the wall—and when they introduced occasional bowlers Vivian Richards and Larry Gomes in an effort to speed the advent of the second new ball it brought the valuable wicket of England captain Ian Botham.

England, 65 for two, had a 20-minute breather when the start of the day was delayed by early morning rain. But once it did get underway, wickets fell at regular intervals.

Both overnight batsman David Gower and Geoff Miller fell cheaply before lunch, the latter providing fast bowler Colin Croft with his hundredth wicket in Test cricket by edging a catch to third slip.

For just over an hour, Boycott and Botham looked as if they might give England with the type of partnership they needed.

But Botham allowed impatience to get him out to a reckless shot. Trying to lift Richards he mistimed the shot and gave a high catch to Michael Holding at mid-off.

When, eight runs later, Holding produced a sharply lifting bounce to claim Boycott brilliantly caught at third slip by Desmond Haynes, the West Indies was through to the England lower order.

West Indies 426 for 9 decl, England 178 and 169.

Allan Lamb cleared

LONDON, Feb. 20 (AFP) — Allan Lamb, Northamptonshire's South African-born batsman, has been cleared by the County Cricket Board to play for England from next year.

Lamb, 26, made his county debut in 1978 and has quickly become one of the most attractive and heaviest-scoring batsman in the game.

Napier match drawn

NAPIER, New Zealand, Feb. 20 (AFP) — Even with three declarations the opening first class match of India's cricket tour of New Zealand could do no more than wander to a tame draw as Central Districts made no effort to chase a difficult target set for them in the last session of play at McLean Park in Napier.

India scored 312 for seven declared and 195 for three declared. Central Districts 277 for seven declared and 29 without loss.

Gil Morgan grabs the lead

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 20 (AP) — Gil Morgan fired a 6-under-par 65 Thursday to grab the first-round lead in the \$300,000 Glen Campbell Los Angeles open.

Morgan, who won the event in 1978, slipped ahead of six other golfers including Japan's Namio Takusu, who was in Los Angeles only because of an extension of his honeymoon.

Takusu, John Miller, John Cook, Bruce Lietzke, Miller Barber and Keith Ferguson all shot 66 over the Riviera Country Club course

with its par 35-36 extending 7,022 yards.

An amateur, Commans, a senior at the university of Southern California, shot a 67 to sneak in among the pros on the opening day.

Jack Nicklaus shot only a 71 while Lee Trevino and Tom Watson did worse with 72s.

Morgan sank two 20-foot (6 m) birdie putts enroute to his 65 but observed that, if the winds come up over the Pacific Ocean, the low scores could become things of the past.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1981

Grevey, Porter sparkle

Bullets rout 76ers to keep hopes alive

NEW YORK, Feb. 20 (AP) — The Philadelphia 76ers haven't lost many games this season — they are 51-12, tops in the National Basketball Association — but the rugging Washington Bullets have given them the old 1-2.

With Kevin Grevey pouring in 31 points and Kevin Porter, his running mate at guard, adding 24, as well as banding out 15 assists, the Bullets beat the 76ers Thursday night for the second time in a week, this time by a 107-108 score.

"It's not like beating anyone else — it's Philadelphia. I don't think any team could have beaten us Thursday night — Philadelphia, Boston or anybody," Grevey said after the Bullets hit 56 per cent of their shots and scored 28 fast-break points while handing the 76ers their worst defeat of the season. By winning, the Bullets pulled to within one-half game of Chicago for the sixth and last Eastern Conference playoff spot.

Elsewhere, the Midwest Division leaders San Antonio Spurs were knocked off by the

Qatar manager optimistic

By Edward Thankarajah Arab News Correspondent

BANGKOK, Feb. 20 — The final round of the 22nd Asian Youth Soccer Championships will begin Saturday at the Bangkok National Stadium with hosts Thailand meeting Bangladesh in the curtain-raiser contest and reigning champions South Korea taking on the 'dark-horse' of the tournament Qatar in the second match. The fifth team taking part is Japan. The winner of the tournament will be awarded the Tengku Abdul Rahman Cup presented by the former prime minister of Malaysia.

The finalists in this contest will represent Asia at the World Youth Soccer Championships to be held in Australia in Oct. this year. Two qualifying tournaments were held last Dec. at Manila, South Korea, Japan and Thailand took the top three spots respectively while at Patna, Qatar and Bangladesh finished first and second.

The manager of the Qatar team Rustum Baker was confident that his side would enter the final. He said he would have preferred if their match with South Korea was played at a later date. "It would have given our players time to settle down and get acclimatized. Nevertheless, we are looking forward to this tournament with excitement and enthusiasm, and hope to do well," he said.

Cleveland Cavaliers 118-104, the Denver Nuggets nipped the Pacific Division leaders Phoenix Suns 127-126 and the Portland Trail Blazers downed the Detroit Pistons 115-106.

Cavaliers 118, Spurs 104: Mike Mitchell scored 30 points and Bill Laimbeer added 19 to go with 22 rebounds for Cleveland. The game was deadlocked: 80-80 with 4:16 left in the third quarter before Cleveland opened a 91-85 advantage at the end of the period. Roger Phegley added 20 points for Cleveland and Geoff Hinton came off the bench to score 19. George Gervin paced San Antonio with 32.

Nuggets 127, Suns 126: Alex English scored Denver's last eight points as the Nuggets rallied from a seven-point deficit in the final three minutes. English's jumper from the baseline put the Nuggets on top with 24 seconds remaining. Late in the third period Denver led 92-76, but Phoenix went into a pressure defense and began a stirring comeback. The Suns cut the deficit to six points by the end of the period and opened a 122-115 lead.

Then the Nuggets reversed the trend. Dan Issel connected on four free throws before English took over, hitting three baskets and two free throws in the last 1:43. Issel was the game's high scorer with 30 points and David Thompson contributed 24 for Denver.

Footballer dies

SHEFFIELD, England, Feb. 20 (AFP) — A 19-year-old reserve player collapsed and died Thursday during a practice session for Sheffield United, an English Third Division football team.

Keith Solomun suddenly dropped to the ground after the went for a high ball in training. When he failed to recover after mouth-to-mouth resuscitation he was rushed to hospital, where he died shortly after his arrival.

BRIEFS

INKN, (AFP) — Snow and ice almost brought the Mintex International Rally to a halt Thursday night but after a testing battle Finn Pentti Airikkala emerged with a minute advantage over Rothman's teammate Malcolm Wilson after three stages.

MADRID (AP) — The flaming torch for the Universiade Winter Games, scheduled to start at Jaca in northern Spain on Feb. 24, arrived in Madrid Wednesday. The torch was brought from Mexico, the host country of the latest Winter Games.

LAUSANNE (AFP) — The International Olympic Committee's executive board will discuss Athens' proposal to become the permanent site of the Summer Games when it meets at Los Angeles on Feb. 23-24. Also on the agenda are progress reports on the 1984 Summer Games in Los Angeles and the 1984 Winter Games in Sarajevo.



PROUD WINNER: Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona, who recently transferred to the Boca Juniors for a record price, is all smiles as he poses with the player of the year trophy.

Aussie step to foil Springboks' tour

CANBERRA, Feb. 20 (AP) — The Australian government will ban the South African Rugby Union team from flying to New Zealand via Australia by refusing all transit facilities, the foreign affairs department announced Friday. The visit is planned for later this year.

Officials made it clear the Australian government was taking this step because of its opposition to South Africa's apartheid policies.

To take 2-0 lead

Borg outplays McEnroe

SYDNEY, Feb. 20 (R) — Sweden's Bjorn Borg wrapped up his three-match tennis challenge against American rival John McEnroe with a second straight sets victory at the Horndern Pavilion Friday. Borg won 6-2, 6-4 to take an unbeatable 2-0 lead in the million-dollar series.

Although McEnroe put up more of a fight than in his 6-0, 6-4 drubbing Thursday night, he was comprehensively outplayed and was again let down by his serve-and-volley game.

In the four sets played so far, McEnroe has broken Borg's service only once and has looked a shadow of the player who battled to five sets with the Swede in the 1980 Wimbledon and U.S. Open finals.

The third and final match will be played in Melbourne Saturday night.

In La Quinta, top-seeded Jimmy Connors, second-seeded Ivan Lendl and third-seeded Harold Solomon earned berths in the quarter-finals of the \$175,000 Grand Mariner-ATP Tennis games by scoring third-round victories Thursday.

Connors whipped Terry Moor 6-0, 6-2; Lendl, of Czechoslovakia, struggled to a 6-1,

To take 2-0 lead

Borg outplays McEnroe

4-6, 6-4 triumph over 13th-seeded Bob Lutz, and Solomon crushed Trey Waltke 6-3, 6-2.

Also advancing to Friday's quarter-finals were fifth-seeded Roscoe Tanner, who downed Hank Pfister 6-7, 6-4, 6-4; seventh-seeded Eliot Teltscher, who eliminated ninth-seeded Eddie Dibbs 6-2, 6-1; eighth-seeded Brian Gottfried, who ousted 16th-seeded Mel Purcell 6-3, 6-4; 14th-seeded Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia, who topped Pau Krook of Australia 6-1, 6-3, and unseeded Pat Dupre, who beat Phil Dent of Australia 6-4, 6-0.

Meanwhile, third-seeded Kathy Jordan overcame an erratic serve and a partisan crowd to defeat hometown favorite Zina Garrison 6-2, 6-3 Thursday night in a second round match of the \$100,000 Avon Tennis Championship of Houston.

Jordan twice won key games after falling behind on her service and fought back after Garrison broke her in the seventh game of the second set.

Garrison took Jordan to five break points in the seventh game of the opening set before Jordan finally held and broke Garrison in the eighth game to win the first set.

Sugar Leonard to defend title

Sugar Leonard to defend title

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (AP) — Sugar Ray Leonard will defend his World Boxing Council welterweight title on March 28 against one of three opponents, Leonard's attorney Mike Trainer said Thursday.

According to trainer, the possible opponents are Larry Bonds of Denver, ranked fourth by the WBC, Jorgen Hansen of Denmark, ranked seventh, and Hwan Chung Jae of South Korea, ranked eighth.

Three sites are under consideration for the fight, Trainer said, they are Syracuse, New York; Hartford, Connecticut, and Houston, Texas.

The lawyer said selection of an opponent and a site are expected in the next few days. Leonard has come under criticism from the WBC for not defending his title if he failed to defend it three times in 1981.

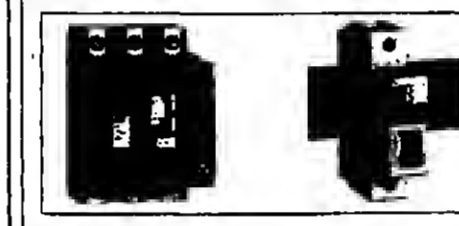
Trainer refused to label the March bout a tune-up for Leonard's June 19 date with Ayub Kalule. The June 19 fight, to be held in Las Vegas or New Jersey, will be for Kalule's World Boxing Association junior middleweight title.

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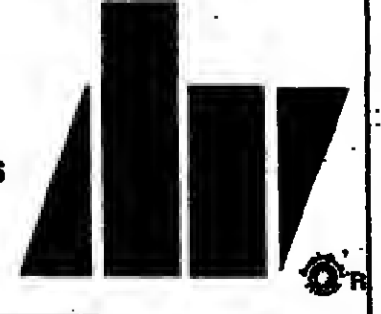


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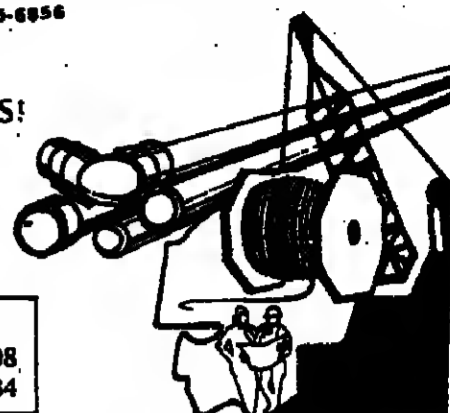
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PAGE 16

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Vows to protect allies

Reagan sees Soviet threat to Europe, Gulf

PARIS, Feb. 20 (R) — President Ronald Reagan, in his first interview with a European publication since his election last November, sharply criticized the Soviet Union and forecast growing threats against both western Europe and the oil-producing Gulf area.

Reagan is quoted in Saturday's issue of France's weekly *Le Figaro* magazine as saying the United States would ask its European allies to shoulder a larger share of their joint defense burden and as repeating the long-standing American pledge that Washington would fully commit its resources to the area in the event of attack. The new president also promised to consult more thoroughly with these allies on issues affecting mutual security.

"As we move into the eighties," he con-

tinued, "our common security will be increasingly stressed by threats not only against Europe but against our vulnerability in the Gulf area." The president said U.S. "commitments to both Europe and our Asian allies remain the central points in our national security policy."

Reagan continued: "In addition to these, we now face collective challenges in a third strategic area, the region of the Gulf ... Europe, Japan and the United States all need the oil which is produced in the Gulf while our Gulf friends need our support in stemming the expansion of Soviet influence."

In a sharp thrust at Moscow, he said: "Over past years, the Soviet Union has demonstrated its willingness to ignore international law and the charter of the United Nations and

to use its own forces or those of its surrogates to undermine the independence and aspirations of peoples everywhere." He said that while every country should be free to determine its own fate without threats from aggression or subversion, "in the 1980s we will see an increase in the challenges to these basic principles."

"The Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies need to see a strong and unified NATO in order to ensure continued stability in Europe," he said. "Our friends and allies in Europe have an indispensable role to play in shaping our security environment..." he added.

"We will strengthen relations with our European friends by, first, consulting more thoroughly with them on issues affecting our

mutual security, and second, by encouraging Europe to assume a large proportion of the defense burden. I have no doubt that the American people would consider an attack on western Europe to be an attack on the United States itself. The American people and the United States as a whole would react to the utmost of our capabilities and would fully commit our resources to the defense of western Europe.

"Our friends and allies in Europe should understand that this commitment will not diminish while I am president." On the U.S. economy, Reagan said revitalization of industry was a top priority and that "our industrial base is a key ingredient not only in our economic well-being in peacetime but also in the security of our nation in times of war."

U.S. shuttle test firing succeeds

CAPE CANAVERAL, Feb. 20 (Agencies) — The three rocket engines of the U.S. space shuttle were successfully fired Friday in one of the last major tests before the craft's maiden voyage scheduled for April. The 20-second test firing took place at 8:45 a.m. EST (13:45 GMT) and initial reports from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said it was a complete success.

When the countdown reached zero, the power plant spewed torrents of invisible flame and white steam over the launch pad. *Columbia* remained locked firmly on its pedestal, held there by eight three-foot-long hardened-steel bolts. The flames were invisible because the propellant, liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen, produced a colorless exhaust that turned to rolling clouds of steam when it hit coolant water flooding over the pad.

"All engines are up and running. They burned the full 20 seconds as planned," the launch-control center announced.

The first orbital flight could come as early as April 7, barring any more problems in a project that is already more than two years behind schedule.

Russia establishes ties with Zimbabwe

MOSCOW, Feb. 20 (AP) — The Soviet Union and Zimbabwe have established diplomatic relations as of Feb. 18 and agreed to exchange ambassadors, Tass reported Friday. The agreement was signed in Salisbury.

"The two governments express confidence that they will thereby promote development of friendly cooperation between the Soviet Union and Zimbabwe and also international cooperation and consolidation of universal peace," the statement said.

Good Morning

By Jhad Khazen

Who introduced you to your husband? There's no one to blame. We just met by chance.

Marital jokes (good, clean ones of course, this is after all a family column.) A clutch of them for your eyes only. Don't let your Partner sneak a look.

There was that young man who was preparing himself for marriage. He asks his father, "How much did it cost you to marry, Dad?" To which the man answers, "Twenty-five years, son, and a still paying..."

Then there was the preacher thundering away at the sinful congregation. "If there's any man among you who thinks himself perfect, let him stand up." To his dismay, someone did stand up. "Go," thundered the priest, "you are perfect, are you?" "No, was the answer, "I am not. But my wife's first husband was. If she is to be believed."

Then some quick one-two's.

— Is your husband difficult to please?

— I don't really know. I over tried.

— What do you use for dish washing?

— Tried many things. Finally settled on my husband.

— If I was your wife, I would have poisoned your coffee.

— And if I was your husband I would have drunk it gladly.

Then, finally, a subtle one: The wife asked the court to grant her divorce, on grounds that her husband spoke to her three times only during their entire marriage. The judge ruled for her, and awarded her the custody of the three children.

Then, finally, the one about the man driving in the countryside, who ran over a rooster by accident. He knocked on the door of the farmer's house to announce the fact. The wife answered. He said, "I just ran over your rooster can I make up for it?" To which the lady said, "Ok. The beans are all in the backyard."

Translated from *Ashraf Al Awsat*

Soviets agree to defer Polish credit payments

WARSAW, Feb. 20 (R) — The Soviet Union has agreed to defer repayment by Poland of credits drawn over the last five years until as late as 1985, the Polish news agency PAP reported. In a report from Moscow, PAP said agreement was reached during negotiations in the Soviet capital by Polish Foreign Trade Minister Ryszard Karski.

The agency said one of the inter-government agreements resulting from the talks was the deferment "up to 1985 repayment of credits granted by the Soviet Union in the years 1976 to 1980." This would therefore include the \$1.1 billion hard currency loan the Soviet Union made to Poland in October last year.

The Moscow announcement came as Poland's last major strike, of private farmers, ended Friday giving the new government a chance to concentrate on the country's serious economic problems as it had requested. The Solidarity free trade union movement reported the strike's end, adding farmers had called off their 50-day sit-in at a former official trade union building in the southern city of Rzeszow and were leaving for home.

Solidarity noted that the farmers in the Rzeszow occupation concluded an agreement with the government Thursday, while striking private farmers at nearby Ustrzyki Dolne signed a similar one early Friday morning with a government commission. The shift from picket line to negotiating table was completed eight days after Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski appealed for a 90-day truce with the free labor movement after months of turmoil. The transition took 10 days after the new premier took up the reins of government.

The accords, reached after weeks of repeatedly deadlocked talks, enshrined the principle of privately-owned farms as a per-

manent feature of the Polish economy and pledged equal treatment for smallholders and the state agriculture sector. A spokesman for the Solidarity union in Rzeszow said Thursday night that the agreement would also pave the way for re-introducing religious instruction in schools, a longstanding demand of Poland's rural masses.

Life was also returning to normal at universities Friday following the signing on Wednesday of a charter on academic freedom and the registration of the Soviet bloc's first independent students' association free of Communist control. The quieting of open unrest means that the new government can now concentrate on the vast problem of the country's debt-ridden economy.

Poland's major Western creditor nations are to meet in Paris for two days next week to discuss rescheduling the country's debts, estimated at \$25 billion.

Beast runs amok at Bangkok airport

By Edward Thangarajah
Arab News Correspondent

BANGKOK, Feb. 20 — Pandemonium reigned, though briefly at the Bangkok international airport, when a water buffalo stampeded through the departure lounge and sent passengers, airport workers and officials running for safety. The male water buffalo made a spectacular entrance crashing through a plate glass panel while stunned security staff, airline workers and passengers stared in disbelief.

The moment of shock lasted long enough for the animal's long, sharp horns to register with the bustling crowd, which scattered in all directions. Women screamed and chairs were flung aside by those anxious to get out of the beast's path.



MOZART SYMPHONY: Robert Muenster, Director in charge of music collection of the Bavarian state library, displays in Munich some sheets of the symphony Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart composed in 1965 in London when he was nine years old. The symphony was acquired by the library from a private seller last week.

However, the unfamiliar surroundings appeared to bewilder the animal which calmed down long enough for airport security staff to capture it and lead it to the nearby police station where it was held in close detention.

Police said the buffalo was among a group of 20 sent by train from a province to a Bangkok abattoir and while being offloaded at a railway station opposite the international airport one, as if knowing his fate, managed to break away. It galloped off up the ramp to the departure lounge body pursued by a group of workers who were in charge of the off loading operations. One worker and the owner of the buffalo have been held by police. The damage done to airport property is estimated at \$ 800.

Iraq claims damaging Iran harbor

BEIRUT, Feb. 20 (AP) — Iraq has claimed it has bombed Iran's oil and petrochemical port city of Bandar Shahpour as U.N. mediator Qlof Palme wound up two days of talks in Baghdad on ways of ending the Gulf war.

An Iraqi communique claimed Thursday the harbor of Bandar Shahpour suffered heavy damage as a result of Wednesday's bombing raid. Announcement of the raid came two days after reliable sources disclosed in Tokyo that Iran has asked Japan to resume work at a \$3.3 billion petrochemical complex that stopped in Bandar Sbahpour when the war broke out 151 days ago.

The port city was bombed from the air five times during the early days of the war, forcing Japan to pull 750 technicians out and stop work at the giant complex. Iran made no comment on the Iraqi claim, which came as Palme prepared to fly to Tehran Thursday after a series of conferences in Baghdad with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, and other leaders.

Cuban 'raiders' free Ecuador ambassador

MIAMI, Florida, Feb. 20 (AP) — The Cuban "raiders" who stormed the Ecuadorean embassy here earlier this month have handed over their weapons to the Ecuadorean ambassador, freed him and two other hostages, Havana Radio reported Friday. The hostages were released Thursday night, according to a broadcast monitored in Miami.

The broadcast said the hostages left the embassy grounds after the assailants gave their weapons to ambassador Jorge Perez Concha.

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